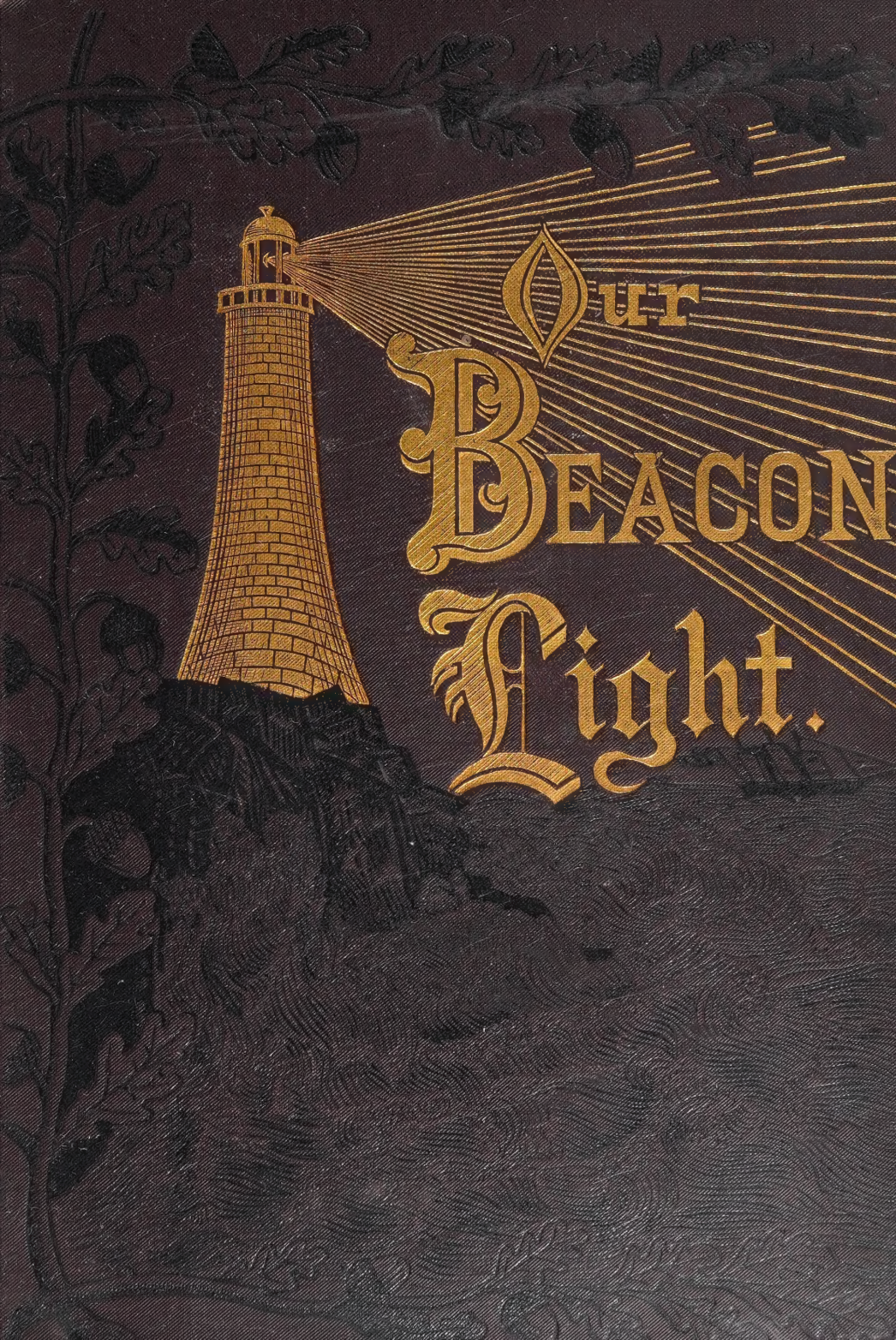
Our
Beacon
Light.

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Like ships that sailed for sunny isles,
But never came to shore.

—*Hervey.*

Our Beacon Light,

OR,

THE YOUTH OF OUR LAND

THE HOPE OF OUR COUNTRY;

DEVOTED

TO

Employment, Education, and Society.

BY

B. R. COWEN,

Editor of the Ohio State Journal.

Formerly Secretary of State and Adjutant General of Ohio, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and Brevet Brigadier General of Volunteers, U. S. Army.

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PREFACE.

SOME one has said that there is a kind of physiognomy in the title page of a book as there is in the face of a man by which a skilful observer may as easily know what to expect from one as from the other. The author trusts that the title of this book may prove as attractive as it is suggestive of important questions relative to the rising generation, and their great importance to the future welfare of the country. Every age demands its own books — every age of man as well as of the world. This book is designed for persons of all ages, parents as well as

children, and the author hopes that those of all ages may find profit in its perusal.

There are many books prepared for the young in these days in which are to be found more or less of the seductive arts of scepticism, covert sneers at Christian truths, and at good men and measures. Such books are among the real perils which beset the pathway of the young man at every step, and he is in danger of yielding, unaware, to their insidious influences, unless he is able at such time to find a strong and judicious friend who can offer the advice of maturity, tempered by a hearty sympathy, which may give the right direction to his hopes and aspirations. It is the aim of the author to make this book such a guide and counselor. He has admitted nothing to its pages that he does not believe to be true and helpful in the right direction, and which, if profited by, will not strengthen the young for the serious and earnest duties before them, and contribute to their temporal success and future happiness.

And while he has sought to inculcate those principles and habits which go to make up a desirable individual character, he has tried not to neglect the broader view of the subject, to wit: the relation of the individual to the national life, and the qualifications necessary to fit him for the important duties of citizenship.

A virtuous, industrious man, well equipped for the discharge of the responsibilities of life, cannot fail to make a good citizen, in the very highest sense of that word, but the man who, though in all other matters exemplary, yet neglects those public duties which are incumbent upon all, lacks important elements of real manhood.

The truths which are presented and illustrated are not new; few truths are. Neither is the manner of their illustration altogether original, in a few instances the thoughts of others having been adapted to the purpose in view.

If the work, as a whole, is found to possess enough of good counsel to encourage the young

readers to fit themselves for the highest duties, without which there can be no success, the author will have gained his object, and the reader can have no complaint.

The book is before you. If you shall give it a place in your home, your office, or your shop, the author feels confident that you will not be tainted by a thought or sentiment it contains, but may be greatly helped in every earnest and commendable endeavor.

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Our Beacon Light.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

—Psalms.

Steadfast, serene, immovable, the same
Year after year, through all the silent night,
Burns on forevermore that quenchless flame,
Shines on that inextinguishable light.

—Longfellow.

AT some point in the horizon of each life there is shining a beacon light to guide across the tempestuous sea to a peaceful and happy haven of rest. Far out upon the waste of waters the little beacon throws its beams, and, guided thereby, the skilful mariner is sure of reaching a safe anchorage.

But there are many false lights on the shore, luring the careless and unwary to destruction, and it is to the true beacon alone that the mariner must be taught to look, and by which alone he must be guided. I have stood upon the bridge of a mighty steamer, and observed the watchful officer. Day after day, and night after night, as, with his hand on the wheel and his eye on the compass, he guides the ship over the pathless deep. As he approaches the land his anxiety is increased. A thousand lights flash along the shore, but one of which is

THE TRUE BEACON LIGHT.

The land is unfamiliar. He knows not how to distinguish the true light from the false. The true beacon light must be known, or the ship, with its precious freight, is in danger of destruction. But yonder approaches a small vessel from the shore. A hail is heard. A skilled pilot is taken on board. The master of the ship greets him gladly, gives the ship into his charge, and all his care and anxiety is over, for the pilot has been tried before, and found to be faithful and trustworthy. He knows the true beacon light. He is familiar with every rock and shoal along the shore, and is able to pilot the ship safely to its landing.

Young man, and young woman, in your life voyage imitate the example of the faithful master of the ship! Study the compass and the rules of navigation, but do not trust these alone. Remember and take on board a skilful pilot, who knows the true beacon light; to whom the rocks and shoals of life are familiar, else in the supreme hour of your voyage your bark may founder, and your life and soul be made shipwreck.

Such a pilot awaits your summons. He will come at your call. Once taken on board,

HE WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU

nor forsake you. Under His unerring guidance you cannot possibly go astray. Without Him you are in constant danger on the voyage, and as you draw near your haven certain destruction awaits you.

But while safe under the guidance of the Great Pilot, you must not neglect to help yourselves by the careful study of correct rules for life's voyage, by which to conduct its daily routine and detail. Such rules are written in the lives of the great and good men of all the ages. They are infallible, so that, guided by them, to err, or go astray, is impossible.

These rules, when exemplified in the life of youth, go to make up what is known as character. Let us endeavor to formulate these rules in such manner that we may ascertain what constitutes the true beacon light.

There is a light in the English Channel, well known to mariners, standing in such an exposed position that it is a continual source of wonder to travellers who pass by it how it keeps its place amid the war of elements to which it is constantly subject. Long after the storm has ceased, and when a total calm prevails, so strong is the ground-swell against the foot of

THE LIGHTHOUSE

that the waves dash up with a fearful roar to the very height of the tower, and envelop the whole structure in a cloud of foam and spray. And when the storm king is abroad in his wrath, and the ship is driven before its fury, and eager watchers are awaiting the wreck on the shore, then the hungry deep, as if enraged at the faithful beacon, which robs it of its prey by pointing out the rocky dangers which threaten destruction, dashes with mightier force and louder roar against the firm rock to bury it beneath the waves.

And so night and day, winter and summer, in sunshine and in storm, for more than one hundred years have the mighty forces of the great deep, with wind and wave, been beating upon and mining under the foundations and storming at the battlements of that beacon in vain. It falls not, for it is founded on a rock. There it stands in spite of all the howling waves and storms, and will stand for centuries, shining in its steady smile on grateful ships. And the mariner, returning from his long voyage to the uttermost seas, looks as confidently to see

THE SHINING BEACON

of the Eddystone Lighthouse as he does to the North Star, or to the hills and green slopes of his native land, and seeing it, he knows that he is safe.

Not only do dangers encompass the mariner as he draws near the unknown shore, but throughout the entire voyage the most untiring vigilance is the price of safety. The hidden rock, the floating iceberg, escaped from its home in the frozen ocean, lying in wait in the gathering fogs for passing ships, all portend destruction on the instant, without

warning or preparation. So are dangers on every hand in life's voyage, lurking unseen, coming upon us unlooked for, and oftentimes finding us unprepared, and therefore an easy prey.

Like the black, magnetic mountain in the Arabian story, which drew out the iron bolts and bars from the stoutest ships, leaving them shapeless wrecks upon the water, so do the temptations, the blandishments, the gilded sins of life, draw out from a man every moral support, leaving him a hideous and repulsive wreck upon the sea of life.

The picture may be a dark one, but it has a brighter side. There is little danger if the voyager will but be guided aright, as he may be, if he will seek the true guide diligently. The Psalmist said:

"Unto the upright there ariseth light in darkness."

To be guided aright is to be divinely guided. If the Great Pilot be taken into the life, then neither storms, nor rocks, nor frowning shores, nor howling waves, will ever prevail against the life so watched and guided. Its success is certain, its happiness assured, its eternal welfare fixed as the stars.

"In spite of rock and tempest's roar,
In spite of false lights on the shore,
Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea,"

for your way will be marked out for you by Him whom the winds and seas obey, and a blessed haven of rest is prepared for you.

The rules for life's voyage are clear and explicit, and may not be violated with impunity any more than those rules and laws which are laid down for the guidance of those who go down to the sea in ships. In a report of the Liverpool observatory, it is stated as a reason why shipmasters should have their watches compared daily with true time, and their variations noted, that the error of a second a day may, in the

COURSE OF A VOYAGE,

sink a ship. So the variation of our line of conduct from the sacred standard, by a hair's breadth, may, by the end of our lives, result in certain destruction.

It is true these laws may be violated for a time, and the regulations disregarded, and yet the ship and the life reach its destined happy haven in the end. But it matters much how a ship reaches its port; whether with all sails set, with

banners flying, and amid the firing of salutes and the sound of merry music, or battered and weather-beaten, with torn canvass and broken masts, and every evidence of having been unskilfully handled. It is possible for a man to preserve his purity and integrity of character through all his life voyage, and reach his port at the end with his soul white as a child's. And, on the other hand, he may weather life's storms with his soul seared, and scarred, and blackened, and so crippled, withal, as to be able to make a landing only with the greatest difficulty, and by superhuman assistance. Which of these would you prefer as your model? It is not possible that a single reader of this chapter would deliberately choose the latter. I trust that none will hesitate to

CHOOSE THE FORMER.

What the true beacon light is to the mariner, and the true beacon of life is to the life voyager, that are the youth of our country to the nation of the future. Those who are to-day controlling the destinies of the country, and giving to their responsible duties all the wisdom and patriotism with which their parents have inspired them, will soon be called away, and their places will be

filled by the coming generation. As the coming rulers are faithful or faithless, so will the destiny of the nation be onward and upward, or backward and downward. As the youth of to-day are trained in a proper appreciation of the duties of life, and of citizenship, and in the practical discharge of those duties, so will they constitute the true beacon light of our nation's future.

It is well also to remember that a man in maturer life becomes himself a beacon to lead and direct the young man starting out upon his career, and for this reason he cannot be too circumspect in his walk and conversation. All men of any prominence have their imitators and followers. Their manners and habits are studied and imitated. They lead young men into the

HIGHER WALKS OF LIFE,

and inspire them with laudable ambitions, or by insidious steps and plausible arguments they direct them into downward paths whose end is disgrace and moral death.

In this view of life, therefore, our duty becomes a matter of far greater importance. No man lives for himself alone in this world. We must not look upon life as a field in which the

struggle is every man for himself. No man can divest himself of his influence, nor avoid the responsibility for the effects of his example upon others. Elihu Burritt stated the character and extent of personal influence in the following eloquent language: "As a little, silvery, circular ripple, set in motion by the falling pebble, expands from its inch of radius to the whole compass of a pool, so there is not a child — not an infant Moses — placid, however softly, in his bulrush ark upon the sea of time, whose existence does not stir a ripple, gyrating outward and on until it shall have moved across and spanned the whole ocean of God's eternity, stirring even the river of life and the fountains at which angels drink."

A man of brilliant intellectual powers, fascinating manners, but convivial habits, gathered about him a coterie of young men who became

DAZZLED BY HIS ATTAINMENTS,

and gradually contracted the worst of his habits. Many of them became drunkards, until the author of the trouble awoke to the destruction he was working around him. He broke off from his intemperate habits, and became a thoroughly reformed man, but the evidences

of his evil influence were so harassing to his awakened conscience that he removed to another and a distant city to escape the continual reminder of his worse than wasted life. But even into his new home the memory of the past followed him and embittered his hours of meditation with a bitterness that had no alleviation.

This is true to a greater or less degree of every man. How important, then, that our influence be for good! Important, not to ourselves alone, but to our fellow men. Each one, therefore, becomes a beacon light to some other brother travelling over

LIFE'S STORMY MAIN;

and as he makes his light to shine so will his influence be for good or for evil, and make of those who follow that light useful or useless citizens.

It is a bitter reflection to be forced on one at the end of life, that his example has led one soul on to destruction. The only escape from such a punishment lies in a life of propriety, and in the practice of correct habits.

Whoso contributes to the proper education and training of youth for the discharge of those

duties, the same is a benefactor, and is laboring for the national peace and welfare as well as for individual elevation.

Then, ever be careful to

"Walk
Boldly and wisely in that light thou hast;
There is a hand above will help thee on"

Youth of Ancient Times.

The youth who hopes the Olympic prize to gain,
All arts must try, and every toil sustain. — Horace.

T is a peculiarity of ancient and even of mediæval history that it deals with the lives and characters of the few men in each age who were the heroes, conquerors, and rulers of the time, while the condition of the great mass of the people is lost sight of, or only learned as it may be a necessary incident of the history of the more commanding figures. In those times the conqueror was the great overshadowing personage about whom fluttered for a brief season his courtiers and satellites, basking in the light of his favor. For this reason it is difficult, and in many nations almost

impossible, to arrive at accurate knowledge of the condition of the youth of those times, their home life and ordinary education.

We know that the Greeks had a literature which furnishes models even for our own time, and a perfection in art which modern students have sought in vain to reproduce, or imitate. A story is told of the celebrated statue of

THE VENUS OF MILO,

or Melos, so called because of the place, Melos, in Greece, where it was exhumed in 1820, and which is now in the Louvre, at Paris, which illustrates this superiority. The statue when found was without arms, and efforts have been made by the most distinguished sculptors of the world to complete the figure by carving arms to suit it. But so exquisite is the grace and beauty of the work of the ancient and unknown artist, that no one has ever been able to supply the missing arms for the matchless figure.

And in literature the Iliad of Homer, whom tradition says was a blind and wandering beggar, stands without a parallel in the literature of the world of ancient or modern times.

The age and the race that could produce such works must have had a numerous population that

could admire and appreciate such marvellous productions of genius. This theory is strengthened when we see the still magnificent ruins of their noble architecture, but none of these tell us the story of the daily home life of the average youth of that time.

WE MAY LEARN OF THE YOUTH

who was destined to rule, but not of those whose cruel fate it was to obey the caprice of an irresponsible tyrant. In an age when war was the chief occupation of tyrants, the young men of the middle and lower classes were trained as soldiers, and the whole bent of their minds and the discipline of their bodies were toward martial pursuits. The arts of war were so rude that it was strong arms that won the victories, and not the most skilfully constructed weapons and ships. It was brawn and not brain that won the victory in ancient times. A curious inscription on Gen. Israel Putnam's powderhorn, now in possession of one of his descendants in Ohio, illustrates this idea:

"When bows and weighty spears were used in fight,
'Twere nervous limbs declared a man of might,
But now gunpowder scorns such strength to own,
And heroes not by limbs but souls are shown."

It was therefore toward the production of "nervous limbs" that the education, or rather the discipline, of the masses tended. Athletic games, races, and all those sports which tend to the development of manly vigor, were most popular.

Contests in the arena, where men trained for the purpose strove with each other or with wild beasts, were among the ancient sports which attracted the higher classes, and human life was regarded as of little value in comparison with the pleasure of the populace or the sated enjoyment of a pampered king and his corrupt and effeminate courtiers. The will of the king was in those days the sole tenure of life to myriads of human beings, and the youth were educated into the idea that they were destined

TO FILL A CERTAIN NICHE

in the community above which it was not possible for them to rise.

There were occasional exceptions to this rule; for the human mind has been the same in all ages, and there have been men in every nation and race and age whom no laws of caste could prevent from attaining the highest positions, whom no persecution could entirely subdue,

whose ambition no royal power could suppress, and whose god-given talent would manifest itself under the most adverse circumstances. Thus Spartacus, a Thracian shepherd, a slave and a gladiator, who was kept at Capua, in the house of Lentulus, and became celebrated for his ability as a gladiator and for his victories over the Romans, revolted at the brutal demand of his captors that he should fight his own brother in the arena. He escaped from his bondage with less than one hundred of his companions, raised the standard of revolt, and took up arms against the mighty Roman empire. He soon found himself at the head of

AN ARMY OF TEN THOUSAND MEN

equally resolute with himself, and though for a time obliged to hide himself in the woods and solitary retreats of Campania, he effectually devastated the country, and when his followers were increased by additional numbers, and fitted by rigorous discipline to cope with the veteran Roman legions, he boldly attacked the Roman generals on the field of battle.

In successive engagements he met and defeated Clodius Glaber at Mount Vesuvius, Lentulus on the Apennines, and Cassius at Modena.

Notwithstanding his humble origin and cruel captivity the gladiator, made leader of an army, proved himself superior in counsel and abilities, and increased in valor and grandeur of character in striking contrast with his fickle followers, who became restive under his necessarily rigid discipline and thorough methods of warfare.

So uniform had been the success of the gladiator's rebellion that the

ROMANS, BECOMING THOROUGHLY ALARMED,

sent the celebrated Crassus with an army against the rebels, and even he for a long time despaired of success, but in a final bloody battle, in which 40,000 of Spartacus's army were slain, the rebellion was subdued. The great leader, however, vindicated his right to be a ruler of men by his distinguished valor in the hour of defeat. When wounded in the leg he fought upon his knees, covering himself with the buckler in one hand, and using his sword with the other, and when at last he fell, he fell upon a heap of Romans whom he had sacrificed to his fury.

His life and character should have been a lesson to the Roman people that, even though slaves, men were equally endowed by their Creator, that the glory and strength of a nation

lies in the development of the good in all its subjects, and that its greatest peril is in the suppression and degradation of every manly trait and aspiration. But the lesson was never learned, and a few years later began

THE RULE OF THE CÆSARS,

not one of whom but would have been a better ruler by imitating some of the lofty traits of the slave general, but under whose control the mighty empire went down in darkness and disgrace.

The character of the youth of ancient times may best be judged by mentioning the career of some of the most distinguished among them whose history has been preserved for our instruction. One of the most renowned among them was Alexander, surnamed the Great, King of Macedonia, who, while yet but a boy, showed himself possessed of those qualities which afterwards rendered him so famous in history. He was born B. C. 355, and was a pupil of the famous philosopher, Aristotle, from five to ten years, from whom he seems to have acquired a great respect for learning. He contributed largely to aid his teacher in the prosecution of his labors and the production of his works, employing above a thousand men in his Asiatic expedition

to collect material for a history of animals, all of which was carefully transmitted to his preceptor.

At the age of fifteen, before the youth of the present day have generally entered upon a college course, or began seriously to consider the duties of life, Alexander was entrusted with the government of Macedonia, during the absence of his father at the wars. He quelled a dangerous insurrection, and soon after joined his father in the field and saved his life in battle. After the death of his father he entered upon his remarkable career, flashing across the world a conqueror

BEFORE WHOM NOTHING COULD STAND.

He not only conquered nations, and all the nations, but he builded many cities, and caused himself to be worshipped as a god.

From his first successes in the small Grecian States, over all of which he was unanimously chosen chief commander when he was little more than eighteen years of age, he prepared to gratify that wild ambition which grasped at the domination of the universe. The initial step in his dazzling scheme was the declaration of war against the Persians. In his twenty-first year, with an army of 32,000 foot and 5,000 horsemen, he crossed the Hellespont and invaded Asia.

His successes were unvarying and his conquests complete. From the battle at the Granicus and in the plains of Issus until his retirement to Babylon some eight years later, loaded with the rich spoils of his Indian conquest, no power could withstand the onward march of his conquering hosts. But with all his knowledge, acquired from his great preceptor, and with all his marvelous talent as a commander of men and conqueror of nations, he showed himself weak in ability to control himself and his own passions and appetites.

His brilliant career was clouded by his arrogant assumption of divine prerogative, his murder of a friend at his own board, and by his life of debauchery. He died in a drunken debauch, at the age of thirty-two, having shortened his life by his excesses. As a conqueror he stands without a parallel in history. As a ruler he must have been a failure, for he had never learned that "he that ruleth his spirit is greater than he that taketh a city."

Considering the

TIME IN WHICH ALEXANDER LIVED,

his youth, the vast extent of country over which he operated, and the widely different peoples

whom he subjugated, his generalship, his power of strategic combination, his far reaching plans and the rapidity with which they were executed, he is the great phenomenon of history. Like a meteor he rose, blazed and dazzled for a brief season, but his fall was sudden, ignominious, and complete. Yet he builded better than he knew, for his conquests spread the culture of Greece, and for ages influenced the condition of Egypt and all Western Asia.

The two examples chosen to illustrate the character of ancient youth were taken from the two extremes of social position and rank, the king and the slave. Let us examine the career of one who was neither, though he attained to eminence and celebrity by reason of his education and the strength of his character.

HANNIBAL WAS OF CARTHAGE,

and at the tender age of nine years his father placed him at the altar and made him take a solemn oath never to be at peace with the Romans. When little more than a boy he was in command of important forces, and before he was twenty-five he was invested with the command of all the armies of Carthage. In the three following years he subdued the whole of

Spain and captured Saguntum after a protracted siege of eight months. This gave rise to the Second Punic War, for the prosecution of which Hannibal levied three large armies, with one of which he made one of the most memorable campaigns in history. He crossed the Pyrenees and Alps, a march of more than a thousand miles, which he accomplished in five months. He was

THE FIRST TO CROSS THE ALPS

with a military force, unless the fabled passage by Hercules may be taken as true. He made his way easy by the use of fire and vinegar, thus softening the rocks, so that even his armed elephants were able to pass through rocky defiles and over lofty summits where a man, though unarmed, could not before have walked with safety. The traveller to-day is shown the pass over which Hannibal led his armies.

He met and overthrew the Roman legions at the Rhone, the Po, and the Trebia. At Cannæ he met the flower and mass of the Roman forces in a pitched battle, in which the losses of the Romans were greater than the entire armies of Hannibal. He made a bridge over the river Aufidus with the dead carcasses of his enemies, and as a sign

of his victory sent to Carthage three bushels of gold rings which had been taken from the fingers of 5,630 Roman Knights slain in the battle.

Had Hannibal marched his army from Cannæ to the gates of Rome, the issue of his campaign would no doubt have been very different, but he retired to Capua, the pleasures of which place so enervated his soldiers that it was said that Capua was a Cannæ to Hannibal. The Romans seeing the effect of the blandishments of Capua upon the army of the invaders resolved to carry the war into Africa, with the desired result of securing the recall of Hannibal, who left with sorrow a country in which for sixteen years he had held his ground and which he had kept in a continual state of alarm, while carrying into effect the oath which his father had imposed upon him in his boyhood.

Less fortunate at home than abroad, he was

DEFEATED BY SCIPIO NEAR CARTHAGE,

and fled after a fearful loss of life among his soldiers. This led to a peace with the Romans to which Hannibal could not, under the terms of his oath, submit. He therefore fled to Syria, to King Antiochus, whom he advised to make war against Rome. The King, however, distrustful

of Hannibal's good faith, refused his counsel and was conquered by the Romans, who granted him peace on condition that he would deliver their mortal enemy into their hands. Hannibal escaped from Syria to Bithynia, where the Romans sent ambassadors to demand the fugitive. The King of Bithynia was unwilling to betray Hannibal, but greatly feared the Roman power, which seeing, Hannibal relieved him of all embarrassment by taking a dose of poison which he always carried with him concealed in a ring.

He died in the same year with Scipio, his great conqueror, at the age of seventy years, during all of which time he had been faithful to his boyhood's oath and had done more to harrass and humiliate the Roman power than any person had previously done. Scipio called him

THE GREATEST GENERAL THAT EVER LIVED,

leaving the world to say that he, Scipio, had conquered the greatest of commanders. And the Romans generally regarded him as possessing the highest merit as a commander. But Livy has blackened his pages and demeaned himself by withdrawing from the great Carthagenian the tribute due to his merits and valor.

Julius Cæsar was another product of the ancient times. His education was the most thorough that the era afforded. He was sent abroad to receive the instruction of distinguished teachers. By his talent, his learning, and his eloquence he rapidly passed through all the inferior employments of the State until he was appointed over Spain, where his valor and his intrigues enabled him to so distinguish himself that on his return to Rome he was made a consul, and reconciling Crassus and Pompey, with them formed the first celebrated triumvirate. Being appointed commander over Gaul he discovered and conquered Britain, which was before unknown to the Roman people.

The growing greatness and manifest

AMBITION OF CÆSAR

created a party against him at Rome, and a decree was passed to strip him of his power. On some pretext he crossed the Rubicon, (now the Rugon,) a small river in Italy, declared war, entered Italy sword in hand, and began the civil war.

For some years his career was most brilliant and successful. He overthrew his enemies among his own people, conquered Gaul, Alexandria,

Pontus, Africa, and Spain, and was created perpetual dictator. But here his glorious career culminated. Like all men who were the product of those times, his uncommon success made him enemies, and the chief of the senators, among whom was his most intimate friend, Brutus, conspired against him, and killed him in the Senate Chamber.

But it was not alone as a military leader that he was distinguished. His learning was no less remarkable. He used his power, with the aid of men of science, to reform the calendar, for which he deserved the gratitude of mankind. He fought the battles of the Gallic wars, and

WROTE HIS COMMENTARIES

thereon upon the fields where he fought. The elegance of his style in those compositions indicates the close application and the careful polish of the cloistered scholar. This valued book he saved at the peril of his life in the bay of Alexandria, where he was compelled to swim from his ship with his arms in one hand and his commentaries in the other.

He was a man of prodigal and debauched habits, which may be largely attributed to the vices of the age in which he lived. But he was a

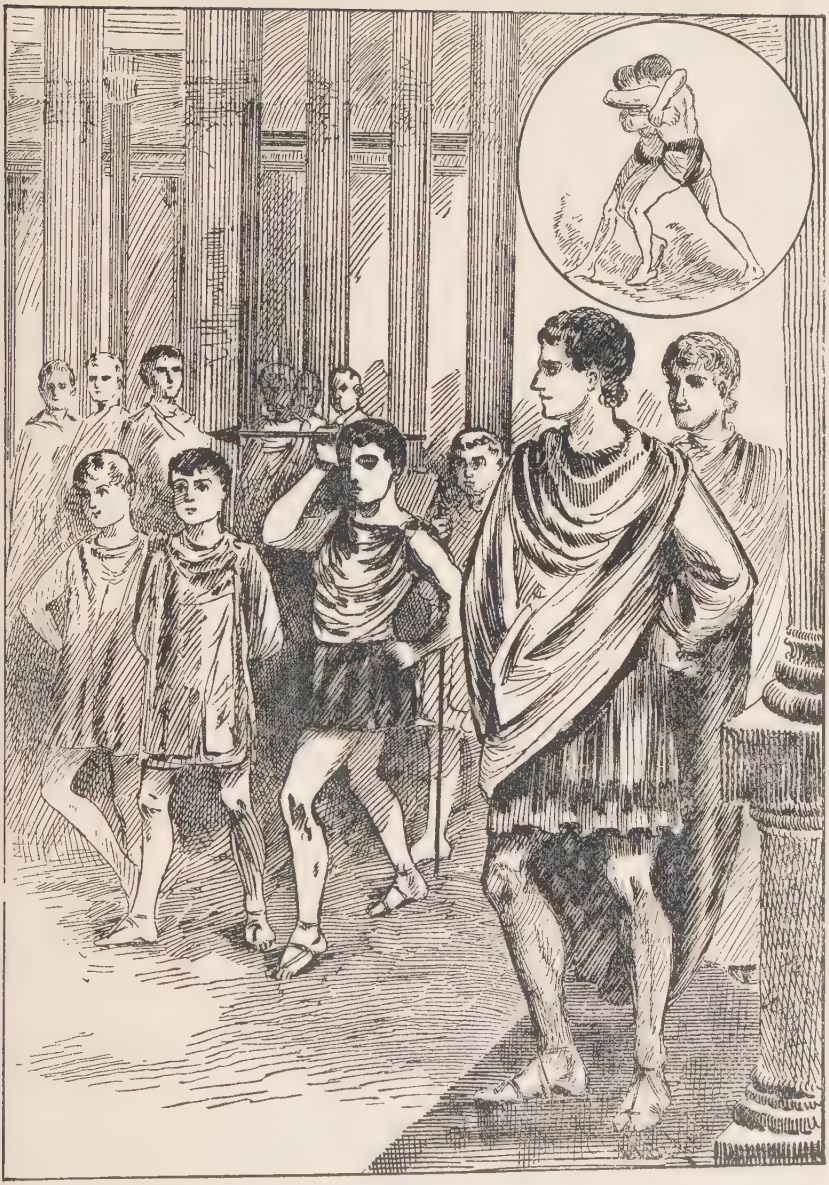
man whose equal is rarely seen among men. Wherever he could have been placed, and in whatever age he might have lived, he must have passed rapidly up to the position of leader. In battle he would have been a conqueror; in a republic he would have been a master. He gave the key to his own character and to his own feeling of superiority when he said he had rather be first in a village than second at Rome.

It was said of Cæsar that in his time he

CONQUERED THREE HUNDRED NATIONS,

captured eight hundred cities, and defeated three millions of men, one million of whom fell in battle. Pliny recorded of him that he could at the same time employ his ears to listen, his eyes to read, his mind to dictate, and his hand to write. Fabulous stories are told of the prodigies that befell at the time of and preceding his death, showing the esteem in which he was held by his cotemporaries.

But not alone did the times in which Cæsar and Hannibal and Spartacus lived and flourished produce men of war. There were those equally distinguised in civil life as statesmen and orators. Among the Romans the greatest of these was Cicero, the son of a Roman knight, and a lineal



The youth who hopes the Olympic prize to gain,
All arts must try, and every toil sustain.
— *Horace.*

descendant of a Sabine king. At school he gave great promise of future greatness, and was taught philosophy, law, and military science by the greatest teachers of his time, in the latter his teacher being the renowned Sylla and his school the Marsian war.

In a country like Rome in the days preceding its establishment under the emperors, so prominent and distinguished a man as

CICERO WAS IN CONSTANT DANGER

from the warring factions of the ambitious leaders, and to save his life he was compelled to exile himself, although 20,000 knights espoused his cause, and the Senate put on mourning because of his voluntary absence. His departure was the signal for the destruction of his property, the ill treatment of his family, and the publication of a law which forbade him under pain of death to approach nearer than 468 miles of the city.

This storm of adversity was but temporary, however, and when the hostile faction had subsided, under the powerful influence of Pompey, the Senate and the people were unanimous for his return. After sixteen months' absence he returned, to the universal satisfaction of his

by false pretences, and later, joining with Antony, doomed Cicero, to whom he largely owed his promotion, to death.

The learning and the abilities of Cicero have been the admiration of every age and every people. And it is more from these and his literary compositions than from his participation in the stormy scenes of the days of the triumvirs that he derived his fame. He lacked one element of a true patriot — personal courage. He was in fact very timid, as his conduct in the civil war fully proved, where by his dubious and irresolute conduct — afraid to oppose Cæsar and sorry not to follow Pompey — he appeared almost a coward.

Such were some of the representative men produced by that

ANCIENT CIVILIZATION,

which, in some respects, has been regarded as superior to our own. But when we consider the intrigues, the cruel and bloody conspiracies, the total absence of loyalty to friends, of gratitude for favors received, the disregard for marital rights and the sacred ties of the family, which were generally prevalent, we see a lack of something which that civilization needed to develop manhood in its highest and truest sense.

people. In the fullness of his gratitude he thanked the Senate in two orations, still extant as models of his eloquence.

But his experience seemed to have rendered him more cautious, and he no longer displayed that remarkable vigor of mind and independence of demeanor which before rendered him the terror of conspiracy and faction. His old enemy, Clodius, was still living, and in his timidity he bowed to, if he did not flatter, the power of

CÆSAR AND POMPEY,

and by thus accommodating himself to the necessities of the times, he contributed the influence of his great name to fasten the fetters upon the liberties of Rome.

In the breach which followed between Cæsar and Pompey, he joined his forces with the latter, but when the fortunes of his patron were destroyed at Pharsalia, he soon became reconciled to the conqueror, but retired to the country, where he devoted himself to study and composition. After the death of Cæsar he returned to Syracuse. On his return he found the capital once more rent with the rivalry of Octavius and Antony, the former, who was afterwards the Emperor Augustus, securing the support of Cicero

Turn a few years later to an obscure village in Asia Minor, and there we find a child born of obcsure parents in indigent circumstances, who was to be the chosen instrument for the introduction into the Roman capital of the one thing needful to give to her civilization the finishing touch, to her men a nobler and truer manhood, and to her dominion a more glorious and substantial power.

IT WAS JESUS OF NAZARETH,

a youth of ancient times, but the Divine Model for all times, who gave to the world that revelation which was to change the manhood of Rome, and of the world. Into the great moral and religious chaos of Rome, as it was in the time of Cicero and Cæsar, where all the abominable religions of the world had been dumped, into that political pest house, so fixed in its domination as to be apparently invulnerable, came the apostles of that faith which the humble babe in Bethlehem, the obscure youth of Nazareth, had inaugurated. And before the men of Rome, absorbed in their ambitions, their conspiracies, and their conquests, had realized its existence, it was planted firmly in their midst never to be rooted out. And there it has remained while

thrones and emperors, and races of men, and pagan systems of worship and philosophy and government have flitted past, like evil omened birds of prey, into the red sunset of dead time to return no more.

Youth of Modern Times.

How can we more essentially benefit our country than by instructing and giving a proper direction to the minds of our youth? — Cicero.

Youth,
When thought is speech, and speech is truth. — Scott.

WHO can employ fitting language in which to picture the advantages of youth in this age and Nation? To the young men and young women of to-day all desirable things are possible. Nothing is beyond their reach. To the humblest as to the loftiest, to the poorest as to the most wealthy and favored every avenue in life stands open and invites entrance. Our national history is full of illustrations of the truth of this state-

ment. Here no grinding tyranny crushes out the budding ambition of the humblest boy; no master claims unwilling and unpaid service.

All may not win the great prizes of life, but all may deserve them, which is far better. The struggling boy whose poverty seems to him so great a drawback to a prosperous career can look about him for encouragement and find it on every hand. Would he aim at the presidential chair? A tailor's apprentice, a tanner's boy, have reached it, and the towpath has led direct to

THE WHITE HOUSE.

Would he become a mere money getter? Some of our most colossal fortunes have come to men of obscure origin, whose early days were shadowed by grinding poverty. In all the learned professions — and high up in all of them — are men who have marked out their own paths from obscurity to fame and fortune. A ferry boy has become a Chief Justice; the only son of a poor widow has reached the Episcopate; an humble country boy has become the leader of the Senate; a poor and friendless emigrant has reached loftiest positions of influence in the nation. Poverty was their discipline, and its attendant hardships their best preparation.

At the close of the preceding chapter, the effort was made to show the great lack of ancient civilizations in the development of the highest manhood. In this country that element is present and predominant. It is

THE BROTHERHOOD OF MAN.

It teaches that God made of one blood all the nations of the earth; that all men are created free and equal, and endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights. And it is because of that doctrine, exemplified here in America as it is nowhere else in the world, that ours is so desirable a country to live in. American youth should daily and hourly give thanks that they are permitted to live at such a time, in such a land, under such a system of government, where every generous and honorable effort and impulse may have full play, and where success awaits all who make the proper exertion to deserve it.

Opportunities lie on every hand. For every toiling, ambitious youth, who is to-day in the school, the college, or the workshop, or on the farm, there is an honorable position waiting his preparation and his coming. Success or failure in that position depends entirely on his fitness,

his qualifications, and his industry. And it is these that he should be now acquiring. The degree of his acquirements must inevitably determine his success.

The Nation recognizes the importance of these struggles, for therein lies that Nation's safety or danger. It is to the young men now in their season of probation that the Nation looks for its support when those who now bear the burden are compelled to lay it down and steal away into their graves. In this view of the matter the preparation of the young becomes a question of weighty import, which has enlisted the best thought of our best men, resulting in the formation of schools and colleges, of mechanical appliances and scientific formulæ, which place knowledge and skill within easy reach of all who desire to attain them.

But, easy as they are to obtain, they cannot be thoroughly acquired without

ENERGY AND AMBITION,

a decent regard for the requirements of the times, and for the methods and formulæ which the wisdom of men have prescribed. There must be the inspiration of ambition to excel or the energy to acquire knowledge will be very apt to

be wanting. Unless a young man has an object in life beyond the mere name of having passed through his apprenticeship, or attaining his diploma, the time spent in college or shop is largely wasted. He must be able to realize that there is a great, busy, struggling world outside of the college and shop, into which he will one day be tossed to struggle with the rest, and that unless he is thoroughly equipped for the strife, he will go down in the first skirmish.

The world has no room

FOR LAGGARDS AND DRONES.

They are soon jostled aside and distanced, or trampled under foot and destroyed. And the sooner the boy realizes the battle that is before him, the sooner he will realize the necessity for the most thorough equipment possible, and apply himself with his utmost energy to acquire the needed discipline.

So fierce is the struggle, so sharp the competition in the world's great highways of industry, of commerce, and of study, that every hour has its duties, and wasted time in youth can never be regained. Now is the time, and the only time, to prepare yourselves. The future is yours, it is true, but it is yours only for other duties which

will brook neither delay nor neglect. Let this thought be ever present with you in your school and apprentice days.

While you are thus preparing for the more serious duties of life, however, you are also forming habits which must largely determine your future success. And among the most important things which will be thrust upon you, whether you will or not, is the necessity of making the right choice of companions. In college, or shop, the young man has measurably passed from the sacred precincts of home, and the

RESTRAINTS OF HOME LIFE

being relaxed, the influences of that life grow weaker, unless the associations and surroundings are such as to perpetuate and strengthen them. Man is so essentially a creature of imitation that he cannot help being more or less affected by the examples set before him. The speech, the manner, the walk, even, and the very methods of thought of our intimate associates, become to a greater or less degree our own.

Imitation is so unconscious that its growth is almost unheeded, but for that reason it is none the less powerful and controlling; in fact, its insidious nature renders it only the more dan-

gerous and difficult of control. As the years pass on this imitation becomes our own fixed habit, a second nature, as it were, so powerful that before we are aware of it, we find that we have to a certain extent merged our individuality into that of another, if we have not entirely yielded up our personal freedom.

This being true one will readily recognize the necessity for the utmost care in the selection of associates. How many men have we known who have unconsciously become the slaves of habits whose control they are powerless to overcome, yet who cling to them while they deplore and denounce them!

Yet while much of the education which goes to form the character by example is involuntary and therefore unconscious, it may be resisted and overcome. Every young man whose

HOME LIFE AND TRAINING

has been what it ought to be will have in himself a will power, which, if kept in continual use, will not only enable him to make his own selection of friends and associates, but will also enable him to resist and throw off the bad influence of all those examples with whom he may necessarily be brought into contact. It will

be found to be principally through weakness of purpose and absence of fixed principles and decided convictions, that any man, young or old, becomes the victim of injurious imitation or yields to the control of vicious or improper habits.

That men are known by the company they keep has passed into a proverb in all nations. The temperate man does not seek the society of the dissolute, nor does the refined court the association of the coarse and brutal. If the seemingly sober man voluntarily chooses the society of the man of convivial habits, his sobriety is in all probability a sham, assumed for sinister purposes. If the gentleman of

REFINEMENT IN MANNER AND TASTE

is often found seeking the companionship of the low and vicious and vulgar, his refinement is but a fictitious gloss to a coarse nature, and sooner or later he will stand out in his true colors, when the inducement to decency is withdrawn.

Young men who have been properly directed and wisely led will carefully and conscientiously exert themselves, not only to resist the influence of bad examples, but to seek only the association of those who are better than themselves, when

imitation will be a help instead of a hindrance. The companionship and friendship of the good is a continuing and perpetual benefit. There are men and women whom to know is to love and admire, and to imitate whom is an enduring good, a sure formation of a desirable character. The Spanish have a proverb to the effect that "if you live with wolves you will learn to howl." And the reverse is true; live with persons of lofty character and you will be lifted up by them, drawn to them, and

SUBSTANTIALLY BENEFITTED.

It is equally important to avoid intimate association with men of narrow and selfish views of life, as such are apt to develop the narrowness and selfishness that is latent in almost all men, and which is opposed to mental and moral development, as well as to that breadth and liberality so necessary to the development of healthy and true manhood.

It is no less important to associate with those who are better and wiser, because more experienced, and whose broader views of life and its responsibilities will tend to develop in you those noble characteristics.

Sir Walter Raleigh laid down some admirable

rules for the selection of friends which are as well adapted to the present day and to our society as they were to the English court of the time in which they were written.

"There is nothing more becoming any wise man," he wrote, "than to make choice of friends, for by them thou shalt be judged as thou art. Let them, therefore, be wise and virtuous, and none of those that follow thee for gain; but make election rather of thy betters than thy inferiors, shunning always such as are needy; for if thou givest twenty gifts and refuse to do the like but once, all that thou hast done will be lost, and such men will become thy mortal enemies."

And Ben. Jonson wrote that

> "True happiness
> Consists not in the multitude of friends,
> But in the worth and choice."

By all means

AVOID SECLUDED HABITS.

Living thus one not only ceases to grow but actually retrogrades and deteriorates. The world has no use for the recluse, and he is soon forgotten. It demands, and will have the best service of men, or it will have nothing to do with them. Cultivate social intercourse with the best people.

Association strengthens as seclusion weakens character.

It was a wise man who left on record for our instruction: "He that walketh with wise men shall be wise; but the companionship of fools shall be destroyed." If you will but approach as near as you can to the Divine Model, follow Him as your great exemplar, imbibe His doctrines and teachings, obey His precepts, seek to become thoroughly imbued with His Spirit, then make Him the great test by which to try all earthly friendships, and you will be in no danger.

An equally important

ELEMENT OF SUCCESS

is perseverance. Dr. Holmes has embodied the idea in his quaint verse:

> "Stick to your aim; the mongrel's hold will slip,
> But only crowbars loose the bulldog's lip;
> Small as he looks, the jaw that never yields
> Drags down the bellowing monarch of the fields."

Perseverance is a necessity without which there can be no success. It is a combination of energy with courage, and means steadfastness, persistence, decision. To persevere even to conquest, man must see the end from the beginning, must have the courage to act for himself, and not

become the shadow, the echo, of another. Without these qualities men never win success in any desirable field.

It has been the men of energetic courage and of courageous energy, in all ages, that have been the moral force of the world. With the inspiration of benevolence, such men have led the social and moral purification of their time. Under the inspiration of ambition, they have been the heroes of conquest, of discovery, of exploration. Under the inspiration of a love of truth, they have been the unsparing enemies of error and sin; they have been the martyrs and the reformers of the world. It is the strong, the brave, the persistent men who lead the world and rule it. The weak, the cowardly, the vacillating, pass away like a name written in the sand.

It is sometimes fully half the victory for a man to feel that he can, sooner or later, succeed.

CONFIDENCE IN ONE'S OWN POWERS

inspires confidence in others. The more positive nature controls the weaker.

It is this effectiveness of persistence, courage with confidence, which enables men of mediocre talent to win extraordinary success. The men who have exerted the greatest influence in their

time were not the men of recognized genius, but of strong convictions, capacity for long sustained effort, with irresistible energy, and an enthusiasm and confidence that amounted to an unconquerable courage. Such men were Luther and Knox, and Calvin, Loyola, and Cromwell, and Wesley.

As a result of the unlimited possibilities of American youth, where every position of honor or profit is attainable, there is a strong tendency to hero worship in this country. It seems to be the result of natural impulse, so general is it, to greatly admire some persons whom we have seen or read of, whose qualities or achievements are attractive or striking.

GREAT AND GOOD MEN

always draw other men toward them. And if we may know whom a boy admires, and why he admires him, it may be determined pretty certainly what the boy is. If the object of his worship is a mean man, the boy is apt to be of the same character; if rich, he is probably selfish; if honest, brave, and true, then is the boy probably possessed of the same qualities.

The great and the good have excited the admiration and the emulation of men in all ages. Milton chose for his hero and model the author

of the Divine Comedy, and the study of that wonderful production and of the character of its author no doubt lent much of the inspiration to the pen that wrote Paradise Lost. Allan Cunningham almost worshipped Sir Walter Scott, which is little to be wondered at, for the genius of the great bard, and his immortal works, have been

THE INSPIRATION OF YOUTH

wherever English is read. It is related of Sir Joshua Reynolds that he thought if he could but touch Pope he would receive some of the mysterious talent of his gifted ideal. In later years, when he had himself become famous, he inspired the same feeling in young Haydon.

Hero worship is generally indicative of noble traits. Mean and selfish persons seldom admire heartily. They cannot recognize noble and generous traits. It is also beneficial in that it induces imitation.

The trophies of Miltiades would not allow Themistocles to sleep, yet they could inspire him to an imitation that brought him greater trophies as the savior of his country at Artemisium and Salamis.

But it is not by imitating others, or affecting

the possession of heroic qualities, because you can admire such qualities in others, that will enable you to win success. You must learn to

RELY MAINLY ON YOURSELF

and your own exertions and qualifications, otherwise you will surely find the foundation you have reared for your life struggle to be utterly insecure, and that it will fail you at the critical moment, and make shipwreck of your fortune and reputation.

It is also well to remember that life is not made up of great deeds, heroic achievements, and marvelous undertakings. Rather is it "made up of little things, in which smiles and kindness," as Sir Humphrey Davy wrote, "and small obligations, given habitually, is what win and preserve the heart and secure comfort."

To the same effect is the admirable expression of Henry Ward Beecher, that "the best part of one's life is the performance of his daily duties. All higher motives, ideals, conceptions, sentiments, in a man are of no account, if they do not come forward to strengthen him for the better discharge of the duties which devolve upon him in the ordinary affairs of life."

EARLY EDUCATION.

How empty learning and how vain is art,
But as it mends the life and guides the heart.

—YOUNG.

He that governs well leads the blind; but he that teaches gives him eyes; and it is glorious to be a sub-worker to grace, in freeing it from some of the inconveniences of original sin. —SOUTH.

IT is related in an Arabian story that a Prince of the East once upon a time offered a prize to be given to the loveliest boy in all his kingdom. Many came from the remotest confines of his wide domain and contended for the prize, but popular acclaim awarded it to one of most surpassing

beauty. Such perfect and angelic loveliness had never before been seen in the gay and wealthy court of the eccentric prince.

Some years later the caprice of the same prince prompted him to offer a prize for the ugliest man that could be found in his realm. The most diligent search was instituted, and many came to

COMPETE FOR THE PRIZE.

There were all degrees and kinds of ugliness. so that a decision was difficult. But while the contest was yet undecided, a man was ushered into the presence of the judges whose aspect was so forbidding and utterly hideous as to have lost almost all semblance of humanity. The spectators shrank from him in disgust. Sin had set its seal on every blotch and in every wrinkle of the seared and bloated face. The prize was awarded to him without a dissenting voice.

Inquiry among the neighbors of the horrible creature revealed the fact that he had been the lovely boy who years before had won the prize for beauty. Intemperance, debauchery, sensuality, and crime had wrought the fearful change.

It was early education that had transformed the boy of perfect beauty and loveliness into the

man of hideous and forbidding aspect. How fearful the responsibility of those whose duty it is to educate the young! Here had been wrought a transformation most complete and startling. An innocent boy of pure and perfect character, whose heart was a holy temple, into which only pure thoughts should be allowed to enter, had been so neglected or perverted by his guardian, so hedged about with temptations that he was changed to a thing of evil, a besotted wretch, despised of men, a disgrace to his race.

The teacher of youth, if true to his calling, cannot but ask himself, very frequently, what will be the future of his scholar. Were the veil of that future drawn aside, would he see that noble boy, whose heart is now so full of

LOFTY ASPIRATIONS,

following his noble impulses into an active and useful life and climbing higher and higher, or will he be seen grovelling among the slums, among the selfish, the corrupt, and the degraded of the earth? Would he see that fair young girl, with the light of heaven in her eye, and its purity in her heart, breathing forth the sweet aroma of holiness, still spotless in her lovliness, or would the sweet and holy light be extinguished, the

purity soiled, and nought but a moral and physical wreck remain?

And yet there be teachers who think their duty done when they have preserved order among their pupils, and imparted instruction in regular course. No teacher who thus thinks and acts is fit for his place. Not only must the intellect be cultivated, but the heart must, at the same time, be educated. No faithful parent will regard any teacher as competent who is not able and anxious to lead his pupils to the very highest standard of moral and intellectual purity and excellence.

But important as is the office of teacher upon the early education of youth, it must yield to

THE HOME INFLUENCE

in importance. Without the latter the former is of little value, as, unless the teacher's work is supplemented by the proper home influence and encouragement, it is deprived of much of its virtue.

> "Home is the sphere of harmony and peace,
> The spot where angels find a resting place,
> When, bearing blessings, they descend to earth."

The most important of all schools yet devised for the formation of an enduring character is the

home. Within its sacred precincts every human being acquires his best or his worst education, because it is there that he receives those impressions that are the most enduring, lasting through the longest life and ending only in death. It is the home that makes the character. In it the young mind unfolds, the tender heart opens, the habits take on permanent form, the intellect is quickened, and the permanent character is formed for good or for evil.

"Childhood shows the man, as morning shows the day."

So prone is man to err that the impressions of childhood are almost as apt to be wrong as right, and therefore is the child in great danger of emerging from the home school into the busy world a bad man, with wrong notions and theories of life, to become a dangerous citizen and a disturber of the peace. These schools of character, then, to be productive of the highest good, must be presided over by men and women actuated alone by the purest motives and thoroughly equipped for their noble work. Such a result can only be attained where the spirit of love and duty is moved upon by an ever present sense of the weighty responsibility resting upon all those whose duty it is to train the tender mind;

where the ordinary, everyday life is honest, and true, and virtuous; where the governing power is love and kindness, and where all the control is sensible, practical, and just. It is only from such a home that we can expect to see issue useful and happy youth, sound and healthy in mind and body, following in the footsteps of honored parents and ministering to the welfare of those among whom their lot is cast. With such training, in such homes, there is little danger but that the youth of our land will be the reliable hope of our country, for they are creatures of imitation,

"Wax to receive, and marble to retain."

On memory's walls, richly ornamented as they are by the varied and beautiful pictures of the past, there is nothing more sacred, more beautiful and blessed in its influence, and more abiding in its joy and comfort, than the pictures of the charming home of our youth. If such an one were ours in childhood it sent forth a pure and gentle stream of joy which has gladdened all our after years and cheered us on life's weary way. If it has been ours in manhood, we are able to come to it from the battle-fields and dusty highways of life, to be there refreshed and

strengthened, and made better and happier by its abundant joys. If it has been ours both in early and later life, then have we known its power to relieve a sinful world of many of its cares. The sweet word "Home" conjures up before us the house, the farm, the scenes, and even the faces of the dear ones, around all of which cluster so many hallowed memories, but it does more. Once again we feel that charm, that indefinable spirit it had for us, that pervades no other spot on earth, and which

BROUGHT INTO OUR LIFE SUCH BLESSINGS

as are nowhere else to be found. We see again the faces of the family, the quaint old-fashioned furniture of the rooms, and feel once more the binding influence of the rules we were to obey, see the books and lessons we used to study, and are once again surrounded by the peaceful fireside associations which were ever transfigured by that love which presided over and transformed all.

Such a home has been likened to the headlight of a locomotive, sending its cheering rays far out on life's track, to guide and encourage the tired wanderer. Such a home, like the love which it is made radiant, is a perennial by

fountain of comfort and pleasure. It is in such a retreat that the most precious and lasting impressions are made upon the plastic mind of childhood, far exceeding, in their enduring character, those received in any other school.

But while the home, which I have attempted to describe as the nursery of character, is certainly the best of schools, there are homes, alas! which are sometimes the very worst. In those years between childhood and manhood, during which the mind is so impressible, what untold misery may be wrought by ignorance and selfishness, and

ABSENCE OF LOVE IN THE HOME.

Under the direction of a worthless, incompetent, conscienceless mother, a child may receive impressions which no after culture can eradicate. The mother has it in her power to make the home the holiest, happiest place this side of heaven, or the worst and most repulsive place this side of perdition. The child reared in the first grows up into a perfect, fully developed man. A child reared in the second is mentally deformed, dwarfed, becomes a source of unhappiness to himself and his associates through life, and a curse to society.

The conscientious teacher, occupying as he

does for a time, the parent's place, if he be faithful to the trust placed in his charge, cannot but feel all a parent's anxiety and responsibility. And if all parents were conscientious, and intelligent, and competent, the teacher's position would be second only in importance to the parent's. He would seek to supplement the home work; to co-operate with the home instruction. But since so many parents are utterly unmindful, or ignorant of their duty, the teacher's influence becomes, in such cases,

OF THE FIRST IMPORTANCE.

One great reason why teachers and parents do not succeed in imparting to their children and pupils those necessary qualities of obedience, patience, and faith, is that they do not possess what they attempt to teach. If the teachers have a gentle, cheerful spirit, it will be taught by the child. Observation will convince any one that a noticeable lack in a child is because of a similar lack with those who have been entrusted with its training. Children should be taught self-reliance, to wait on themselves, to do helpful things, to acquire useful accomplishments, to understand that it is more blessed to minister than to be ministered unto, and that

"He also serves who only stands and waits."

Give to the young, also, safe views of the value and usefulness of wealth. Most parents have a natural desire, which is also a laudable one, that their offspring should possess all the comforts and advantages which wealth can give. Money is a mighty power for good or evil, and the duty of parents and teachers lies in so training the young that they may know how to make wealth a blessing. Teach them how, honorably, to acquire it, how to save it, and how to properly spend it. Teach children noble ambitions and lofty purposes, and so shape and direct their minds that they will come to instinctively shun any action that looks alone to mere personal gratification. Teach them to

"Count each day lost whose low-descending sun
Sees by their hand no worthy action done."

One great mistake in parents and teachers lies in attempting to shirk the difficulties raised by the curiosity of children. As soon as a child begins to ask "how" and "why," and to tear to pieces its playthings to learn how they are constructed, the gravest responsibilities fall upon teachers and parents, which should be met promptly. It is well to answer a child's query;

Now 'tis the spring, and weeds are shallow rooted;
Suffer them now, and they 'll o'ergrow the garden,
And choke the herbs for want of husbandry.

—*Shakespeare.*

it is better to put it in the way of finding the answer for itself.

Children who are not imbecile are never stupid. They may have more or less quick intelligence, and may have special aptitudes or antipathies; but they seldom say silly things, unless they have been deceived or lied to. The excuse for such deception is that children are too young to understand. They are

OLD ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND

when they are old enough to inquire. Any ordinary physical facts ought to be clearly explained to them instead of, as is so often done, throwing a mystery about them which seldom deceives and never satisfies.

I have referred to the imparting of knowledge. But it is equally important at the same time to cultivate correct habits. How many drunkards can trace the formation of their evil habit to the self-indulgence which was practiced in their early years, and in which they were too often encouraged! The practice of self-denial, of learning to avoid what is hurtful, of distinguishing the good from the bad in food and drink, should be early taught, and frequently enforced upon the mind.

It is a crime in this age and country for a

child to grow up without a fair education in the English branches, and in the studies necessary to an ordinary business life. Education costs nothing in this country but the time necessary to acquire it, and an ignorant man is an incubus on, and a standing menace to the community. The States are beginning to recognize the dangers of illiteracy, and are enacting laws for compulsory education. A parent who neglects to secure to his children at least an ordinary common school education should be treated as a criminal, for, if he be not one, he is rearing children who will be very apt to become such.

Effects and Advantages of City Life.

God the first garden made, and the first city Cain.

— Cowley.

Towered cities please us, then,
And the busy hum of men.

— Milton.

THE existence of cities and towns is the result of the gregarious habits of men, the aggregative principle in human nature. It was, no doubt, necessity, however, that led the early races to build their towns on lofty spots where, with the aid of the natural advantages of the location, they could the more easily protect themselves against beasts of prey and human foes. A town and a stronghold were thus originally identical. As the population increased and agriculture spread, some

greater degree of security came, which allowed the inhabitants to spread themselves down along the hillside and in the valley below beside the most convenient water course, still keeping as near as possible to their center of strength that they might not be deprived of its protection in time of danger.

Travellers cannot fail to have noticed the peculiarity referred to. My mind now recurs to the old

CASTLE OF STIRLING,

at the capital of Stirlingshire, on the river Forth, in Scotland. The castle, which was the stronghold, is situated on a high point of land, inaccessible on the west side, the castle wall being on the extreme edge of the almost perpendicular declivity, which is more than two hundred feet from the beautiful "vale of Menteith" below. On the east side the descent is more gentle toward the town, the oldest houses in which are near the descending roadway from the castle to the valley, showing that in the troublous times of the earlier history of the place the people drew as near as possible to the strong walls of the castle, through the portcullis and over the drawbridge of which they no doubt often has-

tened to escape the raids of the rude highlanders, who came from the bleak mountains to the rich valleys to replenish their depleted larders.

The same is true of Edinburgh castle and city, and many others that are familiar to travellers. As the cities became larger they were enclosed by heavy stone walls, vestiges of many of which still remain to indicate the condition of society in those ancient times when war was the only game which feudal lords and petty princes knew by which to defend their own or to despoil their neighbors.

As society improved and law became

THE RECOGNIZED PROTECTION OF MAN

from the rapacity and selfishness of his fellow man, the gregarious habit was sufficient to preserve the city organization, and to cause a steady and rapid current of humanity from the country to the city.

Marvellous stories are told of the material drawn from the country to supply the people of a great city with food. Take the city of London, for example, which has a population within what is known as the "metropolitan area" of more than three and one-half millions of people, and within the fifteen mile radius of nearly four and

a half millions. All its statistics are, of course, on an equally gigantic scale. Some of them may not be out of place in a chapter on city life.

Besides the numerous railways centreing in the great metropolis, which pour in the produce and the fuel needed for the consumption of her millions, is a fleet, manned by ten thousand seamen, similarly employed.

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY

consume annually sixteen millions of bushels of wheat, four hundred thousand oxen, one million and a half of sheep, one hundred and fifty thousand calves, two hundred and fifty thousand pigs, eight millions of poultry and game, and four hundred millions of pounds of fish. Six and one-half millions of tons of coal are annually consumed for fuel. Every other article of supply must be in the same proportion where the number of consumers is so enormous.

London covers one hundred and twenty-two square miles, has seven thousand four hundred streets, aggregating in length two thousand six hundred miles. It has one thousand six hundred churches, but even this large number will not accommodate a tithe of its people. There are nearly six hundred thousand dwelling houses,

seven thousand five hundred public houses, and one thousand, seven hundred coffee houses. In drink they consume one hundred and eighty millions of quarts of malt liquors, thirty-one millions of quarts of wine, and eighteen millions of quarts of alcoholic liquors.

But nothing is said in these accounts of the steady and enormous drafts upon the country for human beings to keep up the busy, bustling

SWARM THAT FILLS ITS CROWDED STREETS,

its workshops, its different industries, and its numberless graves. The net increase in its population is seventy-five thousand per annum.

The eye of every young man in the country turns longingly toward the great city, where he thinks sure wealth and pleasure and ease await his coming. The lights of the city, the gaily dressed crowds in the streets, at the pleasure gardens and places of amusement, have for him an attraction and a glamour that he cannot withstand, and he is drawn into the magic circle only to find, when too late, that "all is not gold that glitters;" that all is not pleasure that seems pleasant, and that life in the city, as well as in the country, has its drawbacks and its unpleasant features.

It is impossible to put the relative advantages of the city and country before the inexperienced youth in such a manner as that he will accept its conclusions. Like so many other things in life, the young man wants to see for himself, and form his own conclusions, and will accept no man's dictum. But a few suggestions may not be taken unkindly in this connection. The subject will be touched upon in another chapter, but, so far as possible, I will refrain from unnecessary repetition.

There are many advantages in city life that are not generally attainable in the country, though many of them could be attained if the proper, intelligent effort were made. In the city are

CHURCHES, LIBRARIES, LECTURES,

and other entertainments, much superior to anything of the kind that can be found in the country, or that will ever be found there. The reason is obvious. Such things cost money, and in the city the expense is divided among so many that it is comparatively light on each one. None of the great lecturers will go to the villages and hamlets, not because they may not find there perhaps their most appreciative audiences, but because they can get more liberal compensation in the city, where their hearers are more numer-

ous. The same is true of the distinguished clergymen, who, although their influence might be as great, or even greater, among a rural people, prefer the larger congregations and salaries of the crowded cities.

Society in the city has its attractions. The gregarious habit in man, and his love of variety there finds its most attractive field, and the rational enjoyment of fellowship with educated and refined people possesses advantages, as

AN EDUCATING AND REFINING INFLUENCE,

not to be found elsewhere. But the social charms of city life have also their drawbacks. They can very readily be allowed to absorb valuable time that might be better employed in other directions. They may tend to dwarf one's intellectual and moral nature, instead of elevating and expanding it. They may lead one into extravagant habits that he is illy able to afford at the outset of his career. They may lead to the formation of associations that will embarrass him, more or less, in his career.

The city resident, if in the whirl of what is called society, is constantly liable to be more or less entangled with individuals whom he would shun if their real characters were known. One is

less independent in the city than in the country. There are more demands upon his time. He owes certain duties to the public, no matter where he may reside, but in the city these are more numerous and exacting, and often encroach on time that one would gladly devote to relaxation and pleasure.

No matter where a man may live, in city, or village, or country, unless he becomes an actual recluse, he

OWES CERTAIN DUTIES TO HIS FELLOW MAN.

Association of men in cities implies that each must contribute his share toward the trouble and expense of making the city a safe, pleasant, and desirable place of abode. A large portion of such contribution is made compulsory in the way of taxes and assessments, but there are many enterprises, the support of which is entirely voluntary, and without which the city would be less desirable. It is possible, of course, to avoid such expenses, but to do so injures his reputation, his social standing, his business. He finds himself shunned by his neighbors, and pointed at as one lacking in public spirit, whose death would be an advantage to the community. Few people will deliberately adopt such a policy if they have

full knowledge of its results, but many do adopt it, and only regret it when it is too late to retrace their steps.

As a place for mere money making, the city possesses superior advantages, not only because there is more money in circulation and the people resort there to trade, but because money making is the chief end and aim of all. But where men resort to make money there be a majority that lose it. Competition is great, men are compelled to force their business beyond its natural compass, and the result is that many of them are driven to the wall.

In counting the greater

PROBABILITIES OF SUCCESS IN THE CITY

men lose sight of those who have failed and dropped out of sight, basing their calculations alone upon those who have won success. It is well known, however, that but few of those who enter the contest for wealth in the city are successful. In the chapter on "Choosing an Occupation" I have treated this portion of the subject more in detail, and the reader is referred to that chapter.

City life may be made instrumental in elevating a man's character, broadening his philan-

thropy, and improving him in every respect; and it may, on the other hand, have just the opposite effect. So that it depends to a great extent on the spirit and purpose a man may bring to the discharge of any of life's duties, whether in city or country, how it shall leave him at the end of the struggle.

But there is a dark side to city life that I approach reluctantly and only from a sense of duty. Judging from results, young men are more apt to take the wrong path than the right one when they are turned loose and are free from the restraining influence of a well ordered home. The haunts of vice too soon become familiar to their feet, and leave a lasting stain upon their hearts. In the city temptation lurks at every step. Sin in its most plausible and attractive shape stands ready to enmesh the unsuspecting youth, and before he is aware of it he is gone beyond the hope of redemption.

> "Vice is a monster of such frightful mien
> That to be hated needs but to be seen;
> But seen too oft, familiar with his face,
> We first endure, then pity, then embrace."

In the city it is seen too oft, and the result foreshadowed by the poet is apt to follow. It is

here that many of our young men just entering on city life are wrecked, and I can do no better than admonish them to a careful study of my first chapter, whose teachings are intended to lead them to avoid just such eternal shipwreck.

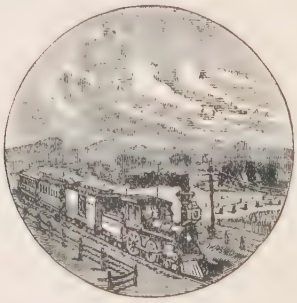
But another unpleasant feature of the city is the life of its poor. These we have always with us in the city, and measures for the amelioration of their condition have taxed the best thought of our wisest and best men. There

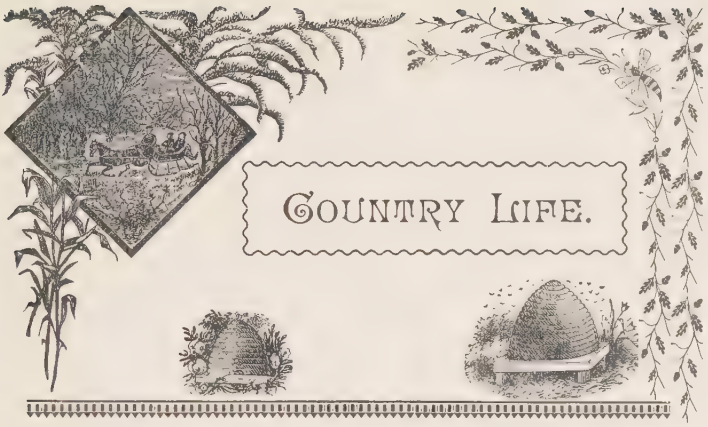
CROWDS ARE GATHERED TOGETHER

in poverty, their hard tasks or their depraved lives leaving them but little time, and less desire, to pray; who seek to renovate their tired bodies by the stimulus of that which is ruinous to their tired souls; and they thus fall into vice which haunts them to death.

Yet, through it all, how many heroes there be who hold fast to their integrity, showing virtues which their wealthy neighbors and employers can neither imitate nor appreciate! There is a law far above and beyond the reach of mere human legislation which can alone rule and save such people. It is a law of love, of religion, which was from the beginning, but which was given us in more glorious light eighteen hundred years

ago, and which, though obscured by man's passions, which make men seem mad at times, shall yet light up the city's grime and smoke, and establish an illumination, not on spires and steeples alone, though they will ever be held in sacred esteem, but on the meanest abode of the poor and humble, in whatever spot two or three may be gathered to worship the All Giver, or to enjoy His mercies — the frugal meal that industry has earned and piety blessed; the hard bed that is ever soft to the slumber haunted by no evil conscience. Such bed and sleep as are emblems of the grave, but only of its rest; for a light burns beside them, let down from the heavens, which they have but to feed with good works and keep carefully trimmed with faith, so that when they wake at last they will know that it was the lamp of Eternal Light.





God made the country and man made the town;
What wonder then that health and virtue — gifts
That can alone make sweet the bitter draught
That life holds out to all — should most abound
And least be threatened in the fields and groves.

— COWPER.

None can describe the sweetness of country life,
But those blest men that do enjoy and taste them.

— MAY.

TO those who have been reared in the city and spent all their days upon pavements and among brick walls the country is an unknown place, and all its pleasant sights and sounds, its healthful joys and innocent amusements a something unappreciated and unheard of. The trees and

birds and flowers which form the rich mosaic of a country life are a something of which the city resident knows and cares nothing, and thus he loses half the pleasure in life.

The city man who was country bred never loses his sense of enjoyment of country scenes and sounds, and he hourly turns his thoughts to the old homestead and longs for the time when he can leave his shop, his store, or his office for a vacation among the old familiar places of his earlier years. To such the country is vocal with wisdom and knowledge. Every tree and plant and bird is

FAMILIAR AS A FRIEND,

and their names are never forgotten. To the city man all trees and shrubs and plants are alike, and there is no difference in the song of birds, the chirp of insects, or the low of cattle. To the country man each has its different features and sounds, and each is pleasant and attractive in its way.

And then the occupations of the country; it has always seemed to me that the farmer is to be especially congratulated on the nobleness of his calling. All honest labor is noble, but the instinct and traditions of the race have ever

Oh! knew he but his happiness, of men
The happiest he! who far from public rage,
Deep in the vale, with a choice few retir'd,
Drinks the pure pleasure of the rural life.

— *Thomson.*

seemed to award the prize of dignity to that skilful industry which is applied to mother earth.

If an odor always accompanied wealth indicating in an unmistakeable manner the method by which it had been acquired — whether it had been inherited from a wealthy ancestry, or had been won by skill and industry, and if by the latter means, whether they were useful or hurtful to humanity, we should very soon cease to have any occasion for disgust because of that mean and truculent worship of mere money which now so frequently manifests itself. If a man's money itself could tell the story of whether

HE ACQUIRED IT IN

making flour or in making whiskey; in raising corn or wheat, or in mere speculation in those articles; in making honest cloth, or in weaving fraudulent shoddy; in the forging of iron, or as iron broker, then would wealth carry with it its own just judgment. If such a system were possible, the rich perfume of the farmer's gold would be such that he need not be ashamed. It would carry with it and spread abroad in every direction the breezy health of the winds and the rains, the delicious fragrance of blossoms, the life giving odors of the soil, and the choice

perfume of noble uses. The land is God's noblest gift. The history of Agriculture is the history of the race, from Eden down to the last claim which has been staked in the far Northwest, and the progress of Agriculture has been the progress of humanity, all the way up from barbarism.

The air and the sea, the rains and the dews, we have with us to-day unchanged and unchangeable as they came from the hands of their Creator, and which no device of human ingenuity can modify. But

THE SOIL IS OURS

to subdue, and increase, and modify, and renew. It is a sacred trust. The Great Giver has done for it just so much, and left the rest to man. Farmers are in co-partnership with the Creator of the soil, and just in proportion as they are faithful in the trust, they are successful.

The earth was given to man unfinished; man is appointed to complete it. The air, the clouds, the sea, are to-day perfect as they dropped from His hand who made them in the beginning. But the earth, the soil, does not even yet fulfil the Divine intent, and will not until it shall no longer produce noisome weeds, and useless briers, and yield only the yellow grain, the teeming orchard,

the purple clusters, and all the luxuries of happy homes. The earth was intended for these from the beginning, by means of the organized, educated labor of man.

As the furrows deepen, as the hidden mysteries of the soil are revealed, as vegetable types are improved, the process of creation goes on, chaos disappears, and the beauty of the divine plan and of nature stands revealed.

That

AGRICULTURE IS THE NOBLEST

of all the sciences is also shown by the fact that while men in every age have known enough to be conquerors and heroes, to create literature, rear costly and beautiful statues, buildings and monuments, they have not known enough to be successful farmers, and to have reached that degree of skill which is necessary to develop and maintain that standard of excellence, of thoroughness and beauty which Providence intended, and which is necessary to found the highest civilization on lands thoroughly cultivated.

In the preceding chapter was noted the tide which continually sets in from the country toward the city, and some of the probable reasons were there given. But one of the principal reasons is

more appropriate to the present chapter. I allude to the want of attraction on the farm to the younger members of the family, the neglect of intellectual and social enjoyments, and the need of something to interest the young people in the farm life and work.

As a rule the country bred boy looks forward anxiously to the time when he will be free to lay down the drudgery of farm work and be off after the golden, happy life which he imagines is awaiting his coming under the glitter of the gas light and in the busy, crowded streets of the city.

There is much

UNNECESSARY HARDSHIP

in some lives on the farms in this country, and it is little wonder that the young people escape from it as soon as they can. Let me illustrate what is meant by a detail of the daily routine on a farm which I know of. The owner of the farm is known as an old fashioned farmer, who has learned nothing except what he was taught by his father, who got all his knowledge from his father, and so on back for generations, and, which is sometimes equally as bad, he has forgotten nothing of it all. Books and papers are something he does not believe in, and a

"book farmer" he despises, though a glance at his intelligent neighbor's neat farm and sleek cattle and sheep and hogs would convince any one else that there may be progress and improvement even in agriculture.

He begins his daily routine long before the dawn, and after dark his lantern may be seen dodging about the barn and stock-pens, like an ignis fatuus, as he gropes his way to finish his day's work. His tired wife, and his sons and daughters, must of course follow his so-called industrious example. Sunday comes, and

ALL ARE TOO TIRED FOR CHURCH,

or visiting, but lounge through the day, excepting that the boys, whose vitality is not entirely gone, quietly steal away to forget the heavy labors of the week in forbidden pleasures in the village, or elsewhere. The tired mother and the girls must walk to church or stay at home, as there is no one to drive the carriage, even if it were not rotting in the barn, where for years it has served as a chicken roost.

Is it any wonder that the farm life becomes hateful slavery to the boy or girl tied to such grinding, pleasureless, profitless tasks? Is it any wonder that the father and mother are pre-

maturely old, their vitality worked out and gone, their energies paralyzed?

But, fortunately for the success of our agriculture and for the credit of our country, such farms are becoming fewer as the years roll on. Farmers of that type are dying off. The active, intelligent, progressive, reading farmer leads a different life. His laborious days are far from unhappy ones. He has leisure for reading and for social enjoyment. His implements are of the best, and thus is his labor multiplied. His cattle are of the most improved breeds, and thus is his care and feed of them better remunerated.

His sons and daughters are never overworked, but are able to

ENJOY SUFFICIENT LEISURE

to cultivate their minds, to enjoy the society of their equally intelligent neighbors, and contribute their portion to the social attractions of the rural neighborhood.

Such farmers as the last one referred to are the hope and strength of the country. Their honestly acquired wealth is steadily increasing. Their sons and their daughters are settling about them, and practicing the frugal virtues and the intelligent industry taught them by their parents.

That the farm life is so commonly repulsive to boys is more for the reasons I have hinted at above than for any other. Life in the country is natural to man. Its enjoyments build up and strengthen nerve, and brain, and heart, while the pleasures of the city exhaust and enervate. The country is conservative, always the same; its life is calm and peaceful. The city is radical; its life is feverish and uncertain. The country remains ever the same. The city continually changes; it rises and falls; fire destroys it, mobs and the sword disfigure it. In a few years

THE CITY IS SO CHANGED

that one who knew it a few years before knows it no more. But the wanderer in distant lands returns to his childhood's rural home to find every familiar feature unchanged, except that it has grown into a more perfect development of beauty.

Wherever agriculture flourishes as it should crime decreases. It is not in quiet, country homes, which dot the valleys and gem the hill-sides and the plains; not among the broad farms, which invite to healthful toil and sweet repose; not where the soil sports and smiles in the rich fruits of orchard, field, and vine, that men go

to seek the guilty wretch whom the law would punish. He is hunted and found in the noisome alleys, the poisoned dens, the crowded haunts of the corrupted city, where vice and crime, and every abomination do herd to sally forth and prey upon society, and make a hell of earth.

Believe me, if the possibilities of life in the country are once attained, there will be far less of this rush to the feverish and artificial life of the city, and a juster appreciation of the rare enjoyments which are not found except in a well rounded country life.

"Plain husbandmen, tho' so far below our pitch
Of fortune plac'd, enjoy a wealth above us;
To whom the earth, with true and bounteous justice,
Free from war's cares, returns an easy food.
They breathe the fresh and uncorrupted air,
And by clear brooks enjoy untroubled sleeps.
Their state is fearless and secure; enriched
With several blessings, such as greatest Kings
Might in true justice envy, and themselves
Would count too happy, if they truly knew them."

Sowing Wild Oats.

"Youth at the prow and pleasure at the helm."

We try to make a virtue of vices we are loth to correct.
— La Rochefoucauld.

Our pleasant vices
Are made the whip to scourge us.
— Shakespeare.

Vice stings us even in our pleasures, but virtue consoles us even in our pains. — Colton.

ONE of the most common expressions in regard to young men who show a disposition to set at naught the wholesome restraints of society is that they are merely sowing their wild oats, and the worst thing about such expressions is that they are generally said in an apologetic way, as if there

was no impropriety in it. It is said: "Boys will be boys; they have a surplus of energy which they must work off, and they will settle down into sober, quiet and industrious citizens, as soon as they have sown their wild oats."

Let us analyze the matter, and see if the general indifference to the sowing of wild oats is justified by the facts. Let us see what is understood by the expression, what its tendency, and what its usual result.

SOWING WILD OATS

frequently manifests itself in an utter disregard for the good name of the sower, and a setting at defiance of every condition of success in life — industry, system, prudence, sobriety, and faithfulness. Occasionally such young men achieve success, it is true, and so also does a man occasionally draw a prize in a lottery, but the general rule is disgraceful failure; the rare exception is success.

Again, sowing wild oats involves the violation of the laws of health. The young man who is running such a career never thinks of the fatal inroads he is making on his health, until disease has laid its hand upon him or acute pains arouse him to a sense of danger. He may dance until

daylight in the unwholesome air of a crowded ball room, and pass into the frosty morning air without sufficient protection; he may visit the theatre two or three times a week, and drink whenever he has the chance; he may go to bed at all sorts of unseasonable hours, and gain a few hours of unrefreshing sleep to enter upon the labors of the day, but he cannot long keep up that course of life. The nervousness, dyspepsia, pallid face and lack-lustre eye, tell his friends the story of his life, but teach him no prudence until it is too late.

To say that

SUCH A COURSE OF LIFE

is necessary to a young and vigorous constitution is an outrageous absurdity, an impeachment of the wisdom of the Almighty. Health and strength and intellect were never bestowed to be wasted in riotous living. The human body is the noblest handiwork of the Creator. There is not only no necessity for the abuse of that work, but to abuse it, or in any way to impair its perfection, is a crime of the deepest dye. It is a violation of every law which the Creator has enacted for the government of His creatures.

That such a course of life is not necessary is

clearly shown by the fact, that those who are properly trained never sow any wild oats. They are possessed of all the enthusiastic ardor, the passion, the vitality, the headstrong independence characteristic of healthy, buoyant youth, but under proper influence those qualities have been trained entirely away from such courses, and the youth escapes. Of course such training involves their own free consent, which would not be the case if the sowing of wild oats were a necessity of youth.

MANY YOUNG MEN,

without any special parental control, are able to look about them, calmly survey the tendency of such a course of life, and turn away from it forever. He who sows wild oats deliberately surrenders himself to the dominion of appetite and passion. Many die while under that dominion. Many others come out of such a course with lasting stains upon their reputation that can never be effaced. A single debauch may plant the seeds of fatal disease. A single disgraceful act committed in an instant of intoxication may blast the reputation, and fix a stigma on the name that half a lifetime of right living cannot wipe out. It may blast all his future

prospects and forever prevent his advancement.

Yet any or all these things are possible while the youth is sowing his wild oats. In the midst of the excitement it is never known what mad prank may not be indulged in. Deeds which in sober moments would be repelled with horror are done as a matter of course and regardless of consequences. It is under such circumstances that property is destroyed, deadly insults are given, public rights are invaded, assaults are made and murders, even, are committed, by young men who are merely sowing their wild oats, and who have

REACHED THE FATAL CLIMAX

by regular steps from their first beginning to be a little wild.

The idea that those who have sowed their wild oats will after a while settle down into steady and useful lives, is a cheat and a delusion. It is not in the nature of things that they should do so. Habits do not come to men suddenly; they are acquired by years of training. The sowing of wild oats is far more apt to continue to the end than it is to be followed by a useful and orderly life. Such courses become the habits of men's lives. The passions which have so long

had control will not relinquish their hold in a moment. The habits of the formative period are very apt to remain the habits of maturity. The will grows weaker, the powers of resistance are impaired, while the passions, the tastes, the appetites, grow stronger and more exacting.

The young men who are absent from home are more liable to sow wild oats, especially those who go from the country or the village to the city, to engage as clerks in large houses where are fellow clerks who have sounded the depths and shoals of city life. Such association is very apt to be dangerous. The youth who is sowing his wild oats is usually possessed with a

FREE AND EASY DASH

which is well calculated to captivate the youth from the country, and the latter falls an easy prey. The fatal hour of temptation comes when the season is dull, or in the evening hours when there is nothing to do, or in the homesick period when he longs for the quiet and peace, the rest and love of home. Then he turns to the gay companion for relief, and finds it in the brilliant but dangerous places with which our cities unhappily abound.

Those of us who have lived long enough to

have seen wild oats sown and grown and reaped are able to tell what the harvest has been. The marks are unmistakeable. The glow of youth has been replaced by the brand of lust; the bright eye has disappeared before the bleared eye of the drunkard; the firm grasp and steady nerve is gone; the bounding step, the active, upright form, have given place to the tottering gait and wasted figure, the sunken cheeks and hectic cough. And it may be that his days and nights of misery and pain are spent in prison cell whence

IRON BARS SHUT OUT THE LIGHT

of day. Character is gone, friends are gone, health and hope are gone, and there is nothing to look forward to but a neglected deathbed and a dishonored grave. This is no fancy picture. I have known many such. Our prisons and our almshouses are full of such examples. This is the real harvest that is gathered from a sowing of wild oats.

"But," I think I hear my young readers say, "are we to have no amusements, no enjoyments, no recreation? Are we to be old men while we are yet boys? Are we to suppress all our youthful enthusiasm and wear straight jackets through the years in which we have a right to see the

world and get some pleasure from it?" By no means. I would see you get all the real pleasure out of life, not only now but always. Give full play to your buoyancy of spirits, expend your surplus energy, but don't do it at the expense of your health, your reputation, or your life. The men whose success in life you may and would be glad to imitate did not begin their careers by sowing wild oats. Pleasure does not mean unholy and disgraceful living.

GLADSTONE, BISMARCK, BANCROFT,

were robust and active in their youth, but they took care of their bodies. Their youthful sports by which they worked off their surplus energy were calculated to lengthen, not to shorten their lives. Every young man should act as if he intended to live a hundred years, and preserve his vigor to the end, instead of burning the candle of his life at both ends and dying of old age at thirty.

Parents are to blame for the little interest they take in the formation of the habits of their children. Go with your children, if you are afraid to trust them to go alone. Let them go to any proper place of amusement, but guard them from the influence of evil associates. Teach

them that they can have just as much pleasure in your company as in the company of others.

Let me ask the young man who has a robust constitution, what he would sell it for? His prompt answer will be, not for one hundred thousand dollars; and yet he is in great danger of letting it go for a few years of so-called pleasure, for a few fleeting hours of disgraceful enjoyment.

Experience shows that it is the children of the wealthy that are in the greatest danger from the sowing of wild oats, whether in the college years, or in ordinary life. He who is

EDUCATING HIMSELF BY WORKING

at a trade, or teaching during his intervals of study, and is compelled to practice the most rigid economy to procure the means to complete his education, seldom falls a victim to evil courses. His surplus energy is expended in legitimate directions, and he seldom has either time or disposition for wanton sports and forbidden pleasures. True, he must have a fixed and steady purpose and a decided character to hold him to his course. Such men seldom turn out badly.

But the student whose expenses are provided for him finds all his vacations and his intervals

of study on his hands through which he must idle in some way, as he has no incentive to effort. He is in great danger, and more especially if he be lavishly supplied with spending money. In the latter case, he not only injures himself but also his less favored associates, who are as apt to become the partners of his carousings and wild pranks. He will also find himself an easy victim of those harpies who continually lie in wait for rich young men, to rob them of their substance and take advantage of their open handed generosity.

Poverty is by no means an unmixed evil to a young man, nor is wealth an unalloyed good.

THE SONS OF POVERTY

are driven to exertion, and the energy and spirit that would otherwise be expended in health destroying revelry is turned to necessary toil, and generally with the happiest results on the after life.

Young man, all the grand opportunities of this wonderful age are within your reach, and you have but to put forth your hand and grasp them. Are you content to forego such glorious privileges for a brief season of so-called enjoyment? Will you turn from a career of such

magnificent promise, and lose your manhood in the vortex of pleasure? Can you see in the red color of the wine in the cup greater pleasure than awaits you in the calm enjoyment of a sober life? Do the wastings of disease, the excitement of the gaming table, the deadly embraces of the brothel, possess for you more attractions than a life of health and usefulness, the even pursuits of trade, the solid enjoyments of domestic life? Is an early and a dishonored grave more to be desired than a long life and a peaceful close in the fulness of time and of honor. If you would not have your youth a delusion, your manhood a failure, and your old age a regret, beware how you fall into the too prevalent fashion of sowing wild oats.

Where to Secure an Education.

Learning by study must be won;
'Twas ne'er entailed from sire to son. — Gay.

Every man has two educations — that which is given to him, and the other, that which he gives to himself. Of the two kinds, the latter is by far the most valuable. Indeed, all that is most worthy in a man he must work out and conquer for himself. It is that that constitutes our real and best nourishment. What we are taught seldom nourishes the mind like that which we teach ourselves. — Richter.

IN this country of free schools and colleges and universities it seems a needless work to undertake to specify where a young man or a young woman may get an education, and while I shall not attempt to write up any one institution of learning, facts may be given in regard to some of them that may assist in the choice of a place to secure an education.

The difference in colleges and schools will be found to be, as a general rule, more apparent than real, so far as educational facilities are concerned. There is more or less difference in the course of study in all of them, and there is difference in the merits of the instructors at any of them, but a young person who sets about the matter in earnest will be able to secure a good education at almost any one of them.

For ordinary purposes

OUR COMMON SCHOOL SYSTEM,

as it is now generally carried on in all the States of the North and West, will be found adequate. There can be acquired the rudiments of an English education, which will be sufficient for those whose only ambition is to learn and follow for a livelihood one of the ordinary trades, or to engage in some small business, and who may not be so organized as to be able to acquire a more liberal education. Thousands of our most successful business men acquired all the education they ever received in the common school, at a time, too, when it was far less thorough and complete than it is at the present time.

But if circumstances be such as to prevent a young man from going beyond the course of

study of the common schools, it need not necessarily follow that he is compelled to stop at that point in his acquisition of knowledge. The leisure of a lifetime is before him to utilize in prosecuting his studies. The examples cited elsewhere of Burritt, Hugh Miller, and Faraday, are illustrations of this fact.

Thousands of the young men who receive their diplomas from American colleges are no better equipped for the earnest and responsible duties of life, on the day of their graduation, than other thousands who pass through the course of our public schools. They have

GONE THROUGH COLLEGE

like parrots, memorized their lessons, and have retained no practical knowledge of anything. But they have their diplomas neatly framed, and whenever they are questioned about anything pertaining to their education, they point complacently to the evidence of their graduation, as if that would resolve all doubts.

There is no doubt but that diplomas are a detriment to a certain class of graduates. Those who think that a college course, with a diploma at the end of it, indicates the sum of human knowledge, beyond which it is impossible to ad-

vance, are far worse off because of their college experience. They put away their books, and content themselves to live, in the future, on the memory of the escapades and disgraceful frolics in which they participated during their college life, all else being practically forgotten.

On the other hand, the young man who has been unable to secure a college course imagines that it will take him a lifetime to make up the deficiency, and he never ceases to study and acquire knowledge from every available source.

But I do not wish to be understood as

BELITTLING THE KNOWLEDGE

acquired at college. Far from it. Its advantage is incalculable in after life, in whatever calling it may be utilized. But colleges alone do not do the work. Without conscientious, ambitious, and industrious students, colleges are worse than useless. With such students they will succeed, although they may not be so well equipped as some of their more pretentious neighbors.

Those of my readers who have fully made up their minds that they will have a collegiate education may derive some helpful hints from the following remarks in regard to a few of the colleges of the country. Those who are well

supplied with money, and to whom the small economies of life are unknown, may probably choose more expensive institutions, but the advantage will not compensate for the additional expense. Not only so, but extravagant habits in school life are always and under all circumstances a serious impediment to a thorough education. The years of college life should be devoted to study. Extravagant students not only injure themselves, but they demoralize their fellow-students, who, naturally, try to imitate their lavish generosity, and thus involve themselves in debt, injure their reputations, and seriously impair their studious habits and disposition. In a college catalogue before me is the following sensible admonition:

"Parents and guardians are earnestly advised that

YOUNG MEN AT COLLEGE

have little need of pocket money; and in all cases a detailed account of expenditures should be required. It is safer that their funds should be entrusted to one of the professors, whose discretion may regulate their expenditures."

In the references made in the following pages to certain institutions of learning, I want it to be

distinctly understood that they are not in any sense in the nature of advertisements. None of the authorities of the colleges named had any knowledge of the intended use of the names of their colleges in this connection, and no compensation has been or will be asked for such mention. Nor has the writer any personal interest in any of the institutions named, except that he is a trustee in one of them. The facts stated are derived from the official reports of the respective institutions, and are presumed to be correct.

There are several things to be considered in making a

SELECTION OF AN INSTITUTION

at which to secure an education that it may be well to suggest before proceeding to give a list of such places:

First — The location. All other things being equal, the young man is better off not to be too far from home. It is important on the score of economy in the item of travelling expenses. He should not be so far away but that he can spend even his short vacations at home; and I have observed that the strength of the home influence upon the life of a student is very apt to be in

proportion to his distance from home. If his parents reside in a distant State, he feels that a knowledge of his pranks and shortcomings will not reach them, and he therefore feels less reluctant to neglect his studies and engage in forbidden pleasures. Then, again, his parents may visit him at his college town, and observe his surroundings, his associates, his manner of living, and estimate the progress he is making and the character he sustains in his classes. It is a

GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT TO A BOY

to know that his parents feel a direct interest in all his laudable efforts.

Second — The character of the town or city in which the college is located. It should be healthy, above all things, and this is largely determined by its natural surroundings. The character of its society, the number of its drinking saloons, its theatres and other places of amusement, are important matters. The disposition of the citizens generally toward the non-resident students; whether they are made welcome at the homes of the better classes, at the social gatherings, or are ostracised, is a matter of very serious moment, as these things may

materially affect a boy's future life. To be withdrawn entirely from the refining influences of social and domestic life during the three or four years of college study is to take from the boy one of the most healthful stimulants to manly endeavor, and is apt to leave him at the time of his graduation, so far as his personal deportment is concerned, a good deal of a rowdy. Those towns which have been founded as

HOMES FOR COLLEGES,

whose population has been gathered by the educational attractions, and over which there is a special atmosphere of culture and good order, are not only most desirable in themselves, but they are usually comparatively free from the dangers and temptations so often surrounding school life.

Third — Denominational character. This is a question that each will settle for himself, in accordance with his own creed or that of his parents. All the religious denominations now have institutions of learning, either under the control and patronage of the church societies, or under the management of recognized representatives of the church, and where the peculiar doctrines of each are recognized or inculcated. It is no part of the object of this book to discuss

the propriety of such system of education. That is too wide a field to enter upon in this place. Each reader must settle it for himself or herself. I have endeavored to give a fair representation of all denominations in the list of colleges which follows.

Fourth — The expense. This will be found to vary but little in the colleges located in the smaller towns, and to consist mainly in

THE COST OF LIVING,

which is largely under the control of the student. The effort to see how cheaply a student may subsist is not commendable. Unless a student is able to supply himself with sufficient nutritious and wholesome food while pursuing his college course, he would far better be at home on the farm or in the shop. More cases of impaired health among college students are traceable to improper and insufficient diet than to hard study.

Fifth — College government. This, like the denominational question, is largely a matter of taste and opinion, and will be determined by each one for himself. A revolution has been going on for some years in the matter of college government, which has resulted in great improvement. A relaxation of the rigorous discipline

of former years has resulted in a corresponding improvement in many respects. The barbarous practice of "hazing" has about passed away. Students are now more generally put upon their honor in regard to college rules, and with happy results. The tendency on the part of the authorities to treat students as young men of integrity has been met by the latter in a spirit of appreciation, which fully vindicates the wisdom of the policy.

Sixth — The course of study. There is great similarity in all the colleges of the same grade in

THE STUDIES TO BE PURSUED,

and considerable latitude is now permitted in the matter of selection. Special studies are allowed in most of the colleges, and certain departures from the prescribed course, all of which should be determined upon and arranged for at the time of entering the college.

These remarks are necessarily of a general character, and intended as suggestions to aid the young man in deciding on his choice of a college. To act intelligently in the matter, he should obtain a copy of the college catalogue, which will be found to contain information on all the points referred to. The list of colleges which follows

gives also the name and address of the principal officer from whom a catalogue can be obtained on application. With several of these catalogues before you, the selection will be an easy matter.

The college expenses proper vary widely in the institutions mentioned, according to their endowment, income, etc. The expense for boarding also varies considerably, but will be found to average not far from $2.50 per week. At nearly all the places named, both sexes are admitted to the regular college course. An examination of a number of catalogues of colleges located in the villages and smaller cities justifies the opinion that the average expense of a college year, where the institution has a liberal endowment and is not dependent on tuition fees for support, will not vary much from $200. With this as a guide, a young man can estimate his ability to complete a full college course.

ILLINOIS.

COLLEGE.	LOCATION.	DEN.	OFFICER.
Abingdon College,	Abingdon,	Chris.,	F. M. Bruner.
Hedding College,	Abingdon,	M. E.,	Rev. G. W. Peck.
Wesleyan University,	Bloomington,	M. E.,	Rev. W. H. H. Adams.
Blackburn Univ.,	Carlinville,	Pres.,	Rev. E. L. Hurd.
Carthage College,	Carthage,	Luth.,	Rev. J. A. Kunkelman.
N. W. University,	Evanston,	M. E.,	Rev. Jos. Cummings.

ILLINOIS (CONTINUED.)

COLLEGE.	LOCATION.	DEN.	OFFICER.
Ewing College,	Ewing,	Baptist,	Rev. John Washburn.
Irvington College,	Irvington,	Pres.,	Rev. E. W. Clarke,
Lincoln University,	Lincoln,	Cp.Pres,	Rev.A.J. McGlumphy
Monmouth College,	Monmouth,	Un.Pres,	Rev. A. J. McMichael.
Mt. Morris College,	Mt. Morris,	Ger.Bap,	D. L. Miller.
N. W. College,	Naperville,	Ev. As.,	Rev. A. A. Smith.
Chaddock College,	Quincy,	M. E.,	John T. Long.
Shurtleff College,	Upper Alton,	Bap.,	Rev. A. A. Kendrick.
Westfield College,	Westfield,	U. B.,	Rev. S. B. Allen.
Wheaton College,	Wheaton,	Non-Sec,	Rev. Jon. Blanchard.

INDIANA.

Indiana University,	Bloomington,	Non-Sec,	Rev. L. Moss.
Fort Wayne College,	Fort Wayne,	M. E.,	Rev. W. F. Yocum.
Franklin College,	Franklin,	Baptist,	Rev. W. T. Stott.
Indiana Asbury Uni.,	Green Castle,	M. E.,	Rev. Alex. Martin.
Hanover College,	Hanover,	Pres.,	Rev. D. W. Fisher.
Hartsville Univ.,	Hartsvllle,	U. B.,	Rev. C. H. Kiracofe.
Butler University,	Irvington,	Chris.,	H. W. Everest.
Union Chris. Coll.,	Menom,	Chris.,	Rev. T. C. Smith.
Moore's Hill Coll.,	Moore's Hill,	M. E.,	Rev. J. P. D. John.
Earlham College,	Richmond,	Friends,	Joseph Moore.
Ridgeville College,	Ridgeville,	F.W.B.,	Rev. S. D. Bates.

IOWA.

Aunty College,	CollegeSprings,	Non-Sec,	Rev. S. C. Marshall.
Univ. of Des Moines,	Des Moines,	Baptist,	G. D. Purinton.
Parsons' College,	Fairfield,	Pres.,	Rev. T. D. Ewing.
Upper Iowa Univ.,	Fayette,	M. E.,	Rev. J. W. Bissell.

IOWA (CONTINUED.)

COLLEGE.	LOCATION.	DEN.	OFFICER.
Iowa College,	Granville,	Cong.,	Rev. G. F. Magoun.
Simpson Cent. Coll.,	Indianola,	M. E.,	Rev. E. L. Parks.
IowaWesleyan Univ.,	Mt. Pleasant,	M. E.,	Rev. W. J. Spaulding.
Cornell College,	Mt. Vernon,	M. E.,	Rev. W. F. King.
Oskaloosa College,	Oskaloosa,	Chris.,	G. H. Langhlin.
Penn College,	Oskaloosa,	Friends,	Benj. Trueblood.
Cent. Univ. of Iowa,	Pella,	Baptist,	Rev. G. W. Gardner.
Tabor College,	Tabor,	Cong.,	Rev. W. M. Brooks.

KANSAS.

Baker University,	Baldwin City,	M. E.,	Rev. W. H. Sweet.
Highland University,	Highland,	Pres.,	Rev. R. Cruikshank.
Univ. of Kansas,	Lawrence,	Non-Sec,	Rev. James Marvin.
Lane University,	Lecompton,	U. B.,	N. B. Bartlett.
Ottawa University,	Ottawa,	Baptist,	T. M. Stewart.
Washburn College,	Topeka,	Cong.,	Rev. P. McVicar.

MICHIGAN.

Adrian College,	Adrian,	M. P.,	D. S. Stephens.
Albion College,	Albion,	M. E.,	Rev. L. R. Fiske.
Univ. of Michigan,	Ann Arbor,	Non-Sec,	James B. Angell.
Battle Creek College,	Battle Creek,	Advent,	A. S. Brownsberger.
Grand Traverse Coll.,	Benzonia,	Cong.,	L. D. Maltby.
Hillsdale College,	Hillsdale,	F.W. B.,	Rev. D. W. C. Durgin.
Hope College,	Holland,	Ref.Dut,	Rev. C. Scott.
Kalamazoo College,	Kalamazoo,	Baptist,	Rev. K. Brooks.
Olivet College,	Olivet,	Pres.,	Rev. H. Q. Butterfield.

MINNESOTA.

Hamline University,	Hamline,	M. E.,	Rev. D. C. John.
Univ. of Minnesota,	Minneapolis,	Non-Sec,	W. W. Folwell.

Learning by study must be won;
'Twas ne'er entailed from sire to son.

—*Gay.*

MINNESOTA (CONTINUED).

COLLEGE.	LOCATION.	DEN.	OFFICER.
Carleton College,	Northfield,	Cong.	Rev. W. Strong.
Macalester College,	Minneapolis,	Pres.,	Rev. R. Macquesten.

MISSOURI.

Christian University,	Canton,	Chris.,	J. C. Reynolds.
Univ. of State of Mo.,	Columbia,	Non-Sec,	Dr. S. S. Laws.
Grand River College,	Edinburg,	Baptist,	J. E. Vertrees.
Central College,	Fayette,	M. E. S.,	Rev. E. R. Hendrix.
Lewis College,	Glasgow,	M. E.,	Rev. J. C. Hall.
Pritchett Institute,	Glasgow,	Non-Sec,	Rev. J. H. Pritchett.
Drury College,	Springfield,	Cong.,	Rev. N. J. Morrison.
Central Wesleyan,	Warrenton,	G. M. E.,	Rev. H. A. Koch.

NEBRASKA.

Neb. Wesleyan Un.,	Fullerton,	.....	Rev. J. J. Fleharty.
Univ. of Nebraska,	Lincoln,	Non-Sec,	Rev. E. B. Fairfield.
Nebraska College,	Nebraska City,	P. E.,	Rev. J. McNamara.
Creighton Univ.,	Omaha,	R. C.,	Rev. T. H. Miles.

OHIO.

Buchtel College,	Akron,	Univ.,	Rev. O. Cove.
Ashland College,	Ashland,	Gr. Bap.,	R. H. Miller.
Ohio University,	Athens,	Non-Sec,	.....
Ohio State Univ.,	Columbus,	Non-Sec,	Rev. W. H. Scott.
Baldwin University,	Berea,	M. E.,	Aaron Schuyler.
Ohio Wesleyan Univ.,	Delaware,	M. E.,	Rev. C. H. Payne.
Kenyon College,	Gambier,	P. E.,	Rev. W. B. Bodine.
Denison University,	Granville,	Baptist,	Rev. Alfred Owen.
Hiram College,	Hiram,	Chris.,	B. A. Hinsdale.
Marietta College,	Marietta,	Non-Sec,	Rev. I. W. Andrews.

OHIO (CONTINUED.)

COLLEGE.	LOCATION.	DEN.	OFFICER.
Mt. Union College,	Mt. Union,	Non-Sec,	O. N. Hartshorn.
Oberlin College,	Oberlin,	Cong.,	Rev. J. Fairchild.
Rio Grande College,	Rio Grande,	F. W. B.,	A. A. Moulton.
Scio College,	Scio,	M. E.,	J. W. Raveill.
Miami Valley Coll.,	Springboro,	Friends,	E. H. Foster.
Wittenburg College,	Springfield,	Ev. Luth,	Rev. J. B. Helrig.
Heidelburg College,	Tiffin,	Ref.,	Rev. G. W. Willard.
Otterbein University,	Westerville,	U. B.,	Rev. H. A. Thompson.
Wilberforce Univ.,	Wilberforce,	A. M. E.,	Rev. B. F. Lee.
Wilmington College,	Wilmington,	Friends,	J. B. Unthank.
Univ. of Wooster,	Wooster,	Pres.,	Rev. A. A. E. Taylor.
National Normal,	Lebanon,	Non-Sec,	Alfred Holbrook.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Dickinson College,	Carlisle,	M. E.,	Rev. J. A. McCaulay.
Pennsylvania Coll.,	Gettysburg,	Ev. Luth,	Rev. M. Valentine.
Hannford College,	Hannford,	Friends,	Thomas Chase.
Allegheny College,	Meadville,	M. E.,	Rev. D. H. Wheeler.
Westminster College,	N. Wilmington,	U. P.,	Rev. E. T. Jeffers.
Western Univ. of Pa.,	Pittsburg,	Non-Sec,	H. M. MacCracken.
Swarthmore College,	Swarthmore,	Friends,	E. H. Magill.
Wash. and Jeff. Coll.,	Washington,	Pres.,	Rev. G. P. Hays.

TENNESSEE.

E. Tenn. Wes. Univ.,	Athens,	M. E.,	Rev. Jon. F. Spencer.
King College,	Bristol,	Pres.,	Rev. J. D. Tadlock.
Hiwassee College,	Hiwassee Coll.,	M. E. S.,	Rev. J. H. Brunner.
S. W. Baptist Univ.,	Jackson,	Baptist,	G. W. Jarman.
Cumberland Univ.,	Lebanon,	C. P.,	Nathan Green.
Carson College,	Mossy Creek,	Baptist,	Rev. N. B. Goforth.

TENNESSEE (CONTINUED.)

COLLEGE.	LOCATION.	DEN.	OFFICER.
Central Tenn. Coll.,	Nashville,	M. E.,	Rev. J. Braiden.
Fisk University,	Nashville,	Cong.,	Rev. E. M. Gravath.
Vanderbilt Univ.,	Nashville,	M. E. S.,	L. C. Garland.
Univ. of the South,	Sewanee,	P. E.,	Rev. T. Hodgson.
Burritt College,	Spencer,	Chris.,	T. W. Brents.

TEXAS.

Henderson College,	Henderson,	Non-Sec,	Layman Gould.
Baylor University,	Independence,	Baptist,	Rev. W. C. Crane.
Mansfield College,	Mansfield,	Non-Sec,	Rev. J. Collier.
Austin College,	Sherman,	Pres.,	Rev. E. P. Palmer.
Trinity University,	Tehuacana,	C. P.,	Rev. W. E. Beeson.
Waco University,	Waco,	Baptist,	Rev. R. C. Burleson.
Marion College,	Waxahackie,	Non-Sec,	Rev. L. M. Lewis.

WISCONSIN.

Lawrence Univ.,	Appleton,	M. E.,	
Beloit College,	Beloit,	Cong.,	Rev. A. L. Chapin.
Galesville Univ.,	Galesville,	Pres.,	J. W. McLaury.
Univ. of Wisconsin,	Madison,	Non-Sec,	Rev. Jno. Bascom.
Milton College,	Milton,	7'D.Bap,	Rev. T. R. Williams.
Racine College,	Racine,	P. E.,	Rev. S. Parker.
Ripon College,	Ripon,	Cong.,	Rev. E. N. Merrell.
N. W. University,	Watertown,	Luth.,	Rev. A. F. Ernst.

NOTE—Under Illinois, 3d line, read *Cb. Pres.* for 'Cp. Pres.'; 4th line, Rev. *J. B.* (for 'A. J.') McMichael. Under Indiana, 8th line, *Merom* for 'Menom.' Under Iowa, 1st line, *Amity College;* 9th line, *G. H. Laughlin* for 'G. H. Langhlin.'

Besides the institutions named, and the list embraces only the larger and most popular of

them, there are others where the education is directed into special channels, as, for instance, schools of science, of mining, engineering, metallurgy, agriculture, theology, law, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, etc. These institutions are now quite numerous, and will be found of the utmost assistance to the young man in the special calling for which he desires to equip himself.

If it is at all possible, he should embrace the facilities offered by such institutions. In no other way can he prepare himself as thoroughly and expeditiously for his life work. Here he may reap at once the benefit of the experience of the world in the particular line of study he wishes to pursue. Able and experienced teachers place their knowledge, skill, and practical experience at his disposal, and by their assistance the crooked paths of scientific and technical research are made plain, and many of the difficulties which would otherwise trouble him in after life are avoided. Men may succeed without the aid of this special education, as they do without any education, but they must always be handicapped, and work at a disadvantage for lack of it.

The Dignity of Labor.

The labor we delight in physic's pain—Shakespere.

Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate,
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait.—Longfellow.

Labor rids of three great evils—irksomeness, vice, and poverty.—Voltaire.

LABOR is a blessing while idleness is a curse to humanity. The idea that labor is God's curse upon man was long ago exploded. Without work there can be no success, no progress, no intellectual or moral improvement. Yet there is no tendency of our nature which is more insidious and more necessary to be carefully guarded

against than indolence. It seems natural to men of all races and in every age to desire to enjoy the fruits of labor without the energy necessary to acquire them. It characterizes savage and civilized, pauper and prince, alike. But it is none the less degrading and demoralizing because it is universal.

Perhaps one great secret of the demoralizing effect of indolence is in the fact that the brain cannot be entirely idle. If it be not employed in good, it will be in bad thoughts. So, too, of the hands, which recalls the familiar lines of Dr. Watts:

> "Satan finds some mischief still
> For idle hands to do."

If the farm be not made to grow wheat and corn, it must needs produce weeds and briers.

That man who undertakes to build up his fortune or character without persistent, hard work, no matter in what line, will find when too late that he has failed. Being so important, and, indeed, necessary, then, to success, honest labor, no matter how applied, is honorable and dignified.

There are false notions in this matter which seem to be prevalent in certain social circles and among certain classes of society. I have never

yet been able to understand why the world is disposed to have greater respect for the man who sells wares than it has for the man who makes them. If there be any difference in dignity, I would give it to the man who creates, and not to him who is the mere medium of exchange between the producer, the creator, and the consumer.

But this condition of things will probably last until the working man, developing to their fullest extent all the talents that have been given him, attains a proper respect for his own calling by realizing its full

DIGNITY AND IMPORTANCE.

To be respected by others one must be self-respecting. By this I do not mean a mere manifestation of pride and vanity, but an ever present sense of the fact that he is a man, endowed by his Creator with certain powers of body and of mind, which should be displayed before the world and before his fellow men as they were intended to be.

In this country where a hereditary aristocracy is not known, where our forefathers and the founders of the nation were workingmen, it seems strange that a few people, because they

happen to be in the possession of wealth which their fathers acquired by honest toil, should affect to despise the working classes.

If any one possessing sufficient interest in the subject will go over the list of men rated as wealthy, with whom he is personally acquainted, and learn their antecedents and the character of their ancestors, he will find that nine out of ten of them began life poor. It is just as certain that the

WEALTHY MEN OF FIFTY YEARS HENCE

will be chiefly drawn from the ranks of the boys of the present day whose fathers are poor workingmen. And it is almost equally certain that the sons of the wealthy men of to-day will squander the wealth of their parents and become the poor men of the next half century.

What is the reason, then, that of a thousand men starting even in life, a score or so will accumulate wealth while the others remain poor? It is because the successful ones learn, early in life, that "they cannot eat their cake and have it, too." They realize the dignity of labor, the virtue of honest poverty, and have the courage to live what they really are. This enables them to work steadily, acquire good habits, and save

something from their earnings, be they never so small.

There is a great deal of nonsense uttered in these latter days about the dangers of overwork. Yet idleness and laziness destroy thousands of men where overwork destroys tens. A man's energies are like the upper and nether millstones. Give them wheat to grind, and they will do it well and faithfully, with no perceptible wear of the surface. Give them nothing to grind, and they work on and destroy each other.

MEN DO BREAK DOWN,

and, apparently, from overwork, but it is more because of the utter neglect of the most ordinary rules of health and the proper ordering of their lives than from honestly overtaxing their mental and physical powers. Hard work, properly kept up, seldom injures any one.

Jay Gould, the great railway king of this country, is the best illustration of this fact within my knowledge. His methods may not be commendable as examples for imitation, but his personal habits are in every way admirable. He is methodical to a degree, absolutely temperate in every respect, indulging in no excesses of any kind, either intellectual or material, yet he is able

to dispose of an amount of work, and to control vast interests, which would appal any one who is in the habit of worrying and fretting over imaginary troubles, or because of minor details which might be easily remedied or avoided.

Constant and healthful occupation is beneficial, if it be not even necessary, to body, and mind, and soul. Mark the lazy man! He manages to drag himself through life with all his powers in a dull and listless sleep, a burden to himself and to his neighbors. There is neither dignity nor respectability in his life, and his death will leave no appreciable vacancy. But

THE MAN OF ENERGY,

of industry, inspires by his example, and is a benefit to his race. He makes labor honorable and dignified, helps humanity by his inspiration, lives respected, and dies regretted.

The application necessary to the successful prosecution of any business or calling, bringing us into close contact with men of energy, is an admirable educator and discipline. In this view the life of a worker becomes something far nobler than the mere struggle for wealth. It is a man's share of the task of keeping the world in motion. And as the needs of business require constant

effort, application and self-denial, it is his drill.

It may not be the highest or the best of discipline, but if it does not highly refine and polish, it greatly strengthens, and in its way, effectually ennobles. It gives force, if it does not produce ornament. It produces strong, steady, brave men, who are to be found in the van of all useful enterprises, even though they may not be the examples of the most perfect culture.

To be successful in great undertakings involves care of the smallest details, and there is no danger of a loss of dignity by such watchful care.

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON

was the model captain of his time, whom his nation delighted to honor for his great achievements, and who will be held in lasting remembrance. He could lead mighty armies to victory, yet one great secret of his success was that he left nothing to chance. He would have failed at Waterloo, and the map of Europe would have been changed, had his soldiers been poorly fed, so he personally inspected and directed how their food must be prepared. On being criticized for his attention to such trivial affairs in the face of such momentous interests, and being told that his

principal duty seemed to be to procure rice and beef for his soldiers, he replied: "So it was; for if I had rice and bullocks, I knew I had men; and if I had men, I knew I could defeat the enemy."

Laziness is a habit easily and quickly acquired, but which it takes a long time and hard work to break up. It is a habit, too, that men form without being conscious of it. It should be taught in every school, proclaimed in every church, talked in every society and association where young men congregate, that work is the duty of every man, that it ennobles him, dignifies him.

EVERY COMMUNITY IS CURSED

with men who do not want to work, some for one reason and some for another, but who have a good deal to say about industrial questions, the relation of capital and labor, just as if these questions were the source of all human trouble. Probably a greater trouble than any of these is laziness. Men are not willing to exert themselves. They act as if they thought the world owed them a living, and that they ought to step directly to ease and eminence without work.

Such men were found advocating ten hours as a day's work. Then their next step was to drop

to eight hours. If demagogues should give them that, they would want to come down to six hours, and then to four, and then they will insist that they have a right to sit in the shade and have somebody keep the flies off of them.

These six and eight hour men never get rich; they never amount to anything. The men who have made their mark in the world, the men who built up this nation, were strong, brave, industrious, sturdy, and incessant workers, who knew the value of time, and who put their energy and virtue into the

FOUNDATIONS OF OUR GOVERNMENT.

The man who has a true idea of the dignity of labor knows that he has just so many hours in which to do his work, and that those hours contain just so many minutes, and that if he would succeed, he must put every one of them to use, and accumulate property by coining his time. Such men are never afraid or ashamed to work.

But the curse and the drawback to our rising generation is that we have so many who are unwilling to engage in any kind of useful and solid work, and have been allowed to believe that honest work is degrading. They might be willing to work if they could be allowed to do so in

their own way, and could work when they pleased a little, and play when they pleased a great deal. They would be entirely willing to engage in labor that required a great deal of standing around, but such work as is appointed unto all men to do they are not willing to engage in.

Every trade and business and profession is full of men who are indolent and inefficient, who have never been taught to work and don't know how to go about it. Then there are men who are always

GOING TO DO SOMETHING,

some great thing that shall startle the world, but they never do it; men who are going to rise early and do an enormous day's work, but who sleep and dawdle and hesitate until noon, and then it is too late to begin, and the sun goes down on their indecision and indolence, and who thus drift along out of one day into another, until one day they lounge into an open grave, which closes over them, and they are not missed.

The majority of them do not use the powers they possess; in fact, they are hardly aware of their possession. A man was once pointed out to me in New York as one of the wealthiest men in Wall street, who, many years before, had broken

down and become utterly bankrupt. Instead of surrendering to his misfortunes, and, coward like, ending his troubles with the bottle or a pistol, he went into an office where he was known, and said to the head of the firm, that he had no bread for his family, but that he wanted to earn some. He said: "I am ready to carry messages for you, or to perform any other service." And he began in a brave, honest, sturdy way, at the very foot of the ladder. Of course he gradually climbed up. Such men always do. Nothing can keep them down.

In another city another just such man fell from wealth in a financial storm, and

LOST ALL HE HAD.

He was without bread, and his family was hungry. So far from repining, and yielding to his trouble, he took a cotton hook, went to the wharf, and unloaded cotton at so much an hour. He had the grit of true manhood, and the cotton owners saw the hero through his disguise, and soon called him to come up higher. Discouragement never weakened him; it made him stronger. It is the chicken-hearted, whining fellows who succumb, and either blow out their brains or go about complaining at their miserable fate, for

which, perhaps, no one is to blame but themselves.

There is in the law of labor, if we can but find it, a noble purpose full of beneficial results, which has been let down upon this busy, toiling life, radiant with a Creator's love. Seeing this, all mystery and difficulty vanishes. Work is man's appointed task, the great mission he has been sent upon. Labor is not a necessity only, it is a duty, the fulfilment of a great and responsible trust, obedience to a wisely ordained and beneficial law.

Learning a Trade.

It may be proved with much certainty that God intends on man to live in this world without working; but it seems to me no less evident that He intends every man to be happy in his work. It is written, "in the sweat of thy brow," but it was never written, "in the breaking of thy heart" shalt thou eat bread. — Ruskin.

FOR the past twenty-five or thirty years there has been a growing tendency in this country, on the part of boys, to adopt one or the other of the so-called learned professions, and the natural result is that those professions, with the exception of the ministry, are all over-crowded, and instead of being, as they were in the earlier days of the country's history, the certain highways to positions of honor and wealth, they have become the resort

of crowds of men who are too proud or too indolent to engage in manual labor, and the standard of excellence has been very much degraded.

There are, of course, many men of great distinction to be found in the professions, but what has been said above is true, as a general rule, and therefore gives the character and tone to the entire fraternity. The cause is the desire of boys to escape what they imagine to be the

DEGRADATION AND DRUDGERY

of an artisan's life, with its imaginary hardships. When a young man leaves college or school, and looks about him, he finds that by two years of so-called study in a lawyer's office he may be admitted to the bar, and the same length of time in a doctor's office, and a few weeks at a medical college, will enable him to procure a medical diploma, while a much longer time and more serious application is needed to learn a trade, unless he is well advised he is very sure to choose the profession.

He has studied the experiences of men to little purpose who does not see that success comes as often, at least, to artisans as to professional men. And for young mechanics who are educated technically, the world is full of opportunities.

It is a fact susceptible of daily illustration that the same talent, education, and application in either one of the trades will be far more certain to lead to wealth and honor than it will in either medicine or law.

This country has become a vast workshop, and its products amount to billions of dollars annually. To produce is the chief object of our people, and the principal source of wealth. It is in the

CURRENT OF PRODUCTIVE INDUSTRY

that success is more certain. The professions of law and medicine are but incidents of the great, busy throng. The members of those professions thrive on the indiscretions, the blunders, and the crimes of the rest of their fellow men. As the laws of health are better understood and more carefully observed, doctors will be in less demand. As the rights of property are better understood, and men become more thoroughly civilized and humanized, lawyers will become less important members of society. But while men want food, and clothing, and shelter, and knowledge; while they go up and down in the earth, the arts will flourish, and the intelligent artisan will not want for remunerative employment.

The intelligent and enterprising artisan is not necessarily tied down to his bench or his shop. He should be thoroughly trained in all the details of the trade he has chosen, but after that there is practically no limit to his field of operations. This country is teeming with natural wealth, which is only waiting the touch of the skilled hand to turn it into gold. It is such mechanics that are building railways, sinking mines, inventing and improving machinery, building furnaces, and forges, and iron mills, and adding to the great

DIAPASON OF INDUSTRY

which is sounding through our land. For many years such men are destined to be the most in demand of any class of our citizens, and they will not want for occupation.

The old system of apprenticeship which was in vogue in this country thirty years ago, is passing into disuse. The reasons for this are numerous. It will answer my purpose, however, to name a few of them. In the first place, our modern methods of education have resulted in the fact that boys are more restive under restraint than formerly. Indentured apprentices, living under the eye and care of a master, and in

his household as members of his family, are no longer heard of. Our so-called progress has frowned upon the system, and apprentices are now a sort of inferior journeymen, who may come and go at their own sweet will, and upon the slightest provocation they leave their places and start out as full-fledged workmen. The result is a country full of botches. Every trade is cursed with them. They are a terror to good workmen. They degrade the trades and the character of mechanics more than anything else.

The apprentice looks upon three-fourths of the three or four years necessary to learn a trade as lost time, for which he is but poorly paid, and this idea drives him out to try and get full wages as a journeyman. He may thus improve his own wages for a time, but he is working injury to every good workman in his trade who has served a faithful apprenticeship and become competent. If trades unions will turn their attention to the task of keeping out the botches, and loafers, and half-fledged journeymen from their trades they will do more to

ELEVATE THEIR STANDARDS,

improve their wages, and benefit the community, than they can ever accomplish by strikes. It is

also these botches that go to recruit the great army of tramps that scourge the country.

Another fruitful cause of the decline in the apprenticeship system and the decrease of competent workmen is the increased application of machinery to manufacturing, and the great subdivision of the work of producing any given article. In the good old times referred to one man was taught all the details of a trade, now he can learn but one. Where then a man was taught to make a shoe, it is now the work of half a dozen or more, each one from the cutter to the finisher learning a separate

PART OF THE BUSINESS.

By this modern method production is, no doubt, greatly increased at a less relative expense, and the product is thus cheapened, but the workman loses his individuality and a certain sense of dignity and pride in the production of his wares. We can appreciate the pride with which the mechanic, under the old arrangement, could point to a neat fitting boot as a work of art, but we cannot imagine the modern employe of a large factory priding himself that he sewed the soles or polished the heels of a boot as his share of the work.

This latter change is the inevitable result of our changed methods, and cannot probably be avoided. But the American workman is at a disadvantage when he is thrown into competition with the foreign workman who has been thoroughly trained in his business. And it is this disadvantage which trades unions seek to remedy. They seem to go about it, however, in the wrong way. Instead of trying to degrade the good workman, they should seek to elevate and improve the poor one. They should encourage skill in their members, and drive out the unskilful and half trained. Some of the money spent in strikes could be better used in the encouragement and reward for greater

SKILL IN THEIR WORKMEN.

These things exist, however, and the boy entering on his apprenticeship must take things as he finds them, and make the most of them. Many of the drawbacks referred to he can avoid or overcome, but if he will apply himself faithfully in the position in which he is placed, become a master of his business, and acquire industrious habits, he is in possession of an independence, and may enter upon his struggle with the world

confident of such measure of success as he deserves.

It will be well for the boy, before entering upon his apprenticeship, to be thoroughly impressed with the fact that all decent and legitimate work is honorable and dignified, and to be taught to steel himself against the taunts and jeers of silly boys who think otherwise. George McDonald showed his appreciation of the dignity of production when he said: "I would rather see a boy of mine choose rather to be a blacksmith, or a watchmaker, or a bookbinder, than a clerk. Production, making,

IS A HIGHER THING

in the scale of reality than in any mere transmission; such as buying and selling." Making whiskey may be legitimate, strictly speaking, because it is recognized by the laws of the State and nation; but it can hardly be considered decent or honorable when we consider the deplorable effects which flow from it. Yet there are those who affect to despise a shoemaker or a blacksmith who are unable to see disgrace in being a distiller of ardent spirits. The world will come to take a different view of this matter one of these years, but, until it does, I advise my

young readers not to allow themselves to be deceived by any false standards of decency which society may have set up.

Let a boy choose an honorable trade, pursue it honorably and industriously, and he will live to see the day when those soft handed and softer headed boys who ridiculed his grimy face and soiled clothes in his apprentice days will be glad to take him by the hand and

CALL HIM THEIR FRIEND.

I cannot refrain from noticing in this connection what must be regarded as a growing evil among our working classes, and which cannot but result, if it has not already done so, in an increase of prejudice toward laboring people. I mean want of kindness and courtesy of manner. It is a great mistake to suppose that good manners are only possible to the wealthy and refined —to those who move in what are called the higher circles of society. Men who work with their hands may be, and ought to be, as self-respecting, as kindly disposed to others as those who work with their brains, or who do not work at all.

Courtesy in the daily life of a laboring man will lighten and sweeten his work in a remarkable

degree. The courteous workingman exerts a superior influence with his class, and is more apt to rise in position than the morose and moody workman, who is always trying to imagine himself hardly dealt with and slighted. Franklin, while a journeyman printer, by his courteous demeanor

WORKED THE REFORMATION

of the manners of all his companions, and the same influence has been noticed in a greater or less degree by all who have had to do with mechanics or laborers.

Courteous kindness costs nothing, but it pays the largest dividend of any investment a man can have. It is as possible to the poor man as to the rich. It may be a very humble acquirement in the eyes of some men, yet in the importance of its far-reaching influence, it deserves to be ranked with the best.

These remarks need not be confined to workingmen. They are equally applicable to all men. In some occupations, that of a merchant salesman, for instance, apparent courtesy is a necessity, but how often it is merely assumed for selfish ends, and how easily one can distinguish the true from the false! Therefore, I say that

courtesy is not necessarily the result of culture, education, or great talent. I have seen the rudest behavior in persons of rank and wealth, in this country and in Great Britain. On the contrary, I have been often struck with

THE INBORN COURTESY

of many of our wild Indian tribes. A white man may visit an Indian village without attracting any great apparent curiosity. But let an Indian visit one of our cities in his native garb, and he is greatly annoyed by the curiosity of following crowds. The Indian has as much curiosity as we have, but he has greater natural courtesy and forbearance, or at least he manifests more. Capt. Speke, the African traveller, says that among the natives of interior Africa ingratitude and a neglect to thank a person for a kindness conferred was a punishable offense. Our prisons would have to be enlarged if such were the law in this country.

What has already been said in another chapter about the advantage of improving leisure time will apply with greater force in connection with the life of an apprentice or mechanic. Improvements, inventions, and discoveries are being continually made in his trade or calling, about which

it would be greatly to his advantage to be thoroughly posted. By study and intelligent reading he, too, may be able to suggest some improvement. Thousands of mechanics have found the

HIGHWAY TO WEALTH

open up to them in this direction. But whether it does or not, the more intelligent a mechanic is, either in his own occupation or on general topics, the more certain he is of promotion. As he deserves advancement it will surely come. His employers are selfish, and want the very best services procurable. If he can furnish such service, he will be called to come up higher.

There is another matter to which the attention of mechanics ought to be directed. Through their trades union organizations they are becoming a power in politics. They are manifesting a determination to secure such legislation as shall insure them a fair show in the inevitable collisions with organized capital. But the contest is unequal because they are not preparing themselves in a proper way, to get their own representatives in official position. They have neglected intellectual culture, and find themselves at a disadvantage whenever they are pushed to the front in contests with their real or imaginary enemies.

As a result they are compelled to rely on the services of others to represent them and advocate their interests.

There are plenty of men who are willing to speak up for the interests of workingmen, but they are generally men who have no real appreciation of those interests, and who pose as workingmen's advocates merely for the purpose of securing votes. These are

THE HARPIES WHO PREY

upon honest labor, and who are ever ready to betray it when it is made their interest to do so. There is but one way to avoid the injury which these men will, sooner or later, bring upon the cause of the workingman, and that is by refusing to employ them or to vote for them.

There is a vast amount of talent, of intellectual force, among the workingmen of America, but it is very badly utilized. The order must be improved by reading, by study, by discussion. Greater care must be exercised in efforts to elevate the standard of apprenticeship, in encouraging good and discouraging bad workmen. The guild of American workmen ought to be among the noblest and most respected of all our organizations, as it is certainly the most useful and

honorable. Mechanics have it in their power to compel respect and justice, and the shortest way to that end is to deserve them.

The great contests of this age, whether intellectual, moral, or industrial, are to result in the survival of the fittest. Interests will flourish and progress only as they deserve to, and those who are in and of the busy world of to-day must fit themselves, by their representatives, to hold their own in the contest, or they will certainly be driven to the wall.

Choosing an Occupation.

Occupation was one of the pleasures of Paradise, and we cannot be happy without it. — Mrs. Jameson.

A man who cannot mind his own business is not to be trusted with the king's. — Saville.

AVING secured an education, the young man turns his back upon the college scenes, which exist for him no longer except in memory, and he finds the world all before him where to choose his place and work. If this were all, he would have little trouble, but circumstances render that one of the most critical periods in life, when he is called upon to choose his occupation, and it very often decides his destiny for weal or woe. In the older parts of our country the several

occupations are becoming crowded, and competition is so great that choice is no longer open, and the young man is compelled to take what he can get, regardless of taste or fitness. But within a certain limit there is room for a choice. How, then, is that choice to be made?

It is all important that the boy's tastes be considered, as his success will largely depend on his fondness for the business in which he is engaged.

TASTES AND PREFERENCES

are largely formed or changed after men have reached manhood and even middle life. The profits and active competition of business become so exciting and attractive at times that men acquire a fondness for occupations which at the outset were objectionable and repulsive. But it is not well to trust to such uncertain future contingencies, as they are not to be relied on. The most certain method is, where it is at all practicable, to be suited at the outset.

There is an almost irresistible attraction to the boy on the farm towards town life and a professional career. It is hard to account for this upon any other theory than the prevalence of a feeling that the life of a merchant, a lawyer, or a

physician is freer from care and hard work than ordinary life on a farm, and that wealth more surely comes through such pursuits than it does to the business of agriculture. All such ideas are wide of the mark, but the country boy is hard to convince of the fact.

There is a glamour about life in the city which casts itself over the country bred youth, drawing him with an irresistible attraction to the paved streets, the close brick walls, and the artificial life of the city, where he believes certain wealth, freedom from care, and comparative ease await him. He learns, often too late, that there is no human pursuit but has its

CARES AND ANXIETIES,

and that success is only for those who seek it early and late with untiring energy and zeal.

Where the young man has made up his mind, however, that he will turn his back upon the farm and seek occupation in the city, he should endeavor to examine the matter in the light of the experience of others, and weigh well all the chances of success, and the probability of increasing his pleasures and his usefulness. Then, having deliberately decided upon such a course, comes up the question of choice, always a difficult

one, except where peculiar fitness or striking genius has been manifested in some particular line.

But natural aptness for any peculiar line of business is not sufficient to win success. Certain success comes only to those who have mastered the minutest details of the business, trade, or profession chosen, and to acquire such mastery it is necessary to begin at the foot of the ladder, and climb by such degrees, fast or slow, as may be deserved.

THE FIRST THING

for the young man starting out on his career to learn is that there is no royal road to success in any field of labor. Success is for the worker alone. The drone in this world is a powerless nobody. It is labor and painstaking drudgery that win the prizes of life. The biographies of all great men, whether statesmen, artisans, inventors, or professional men, show them to have been men of great industry.

Another important thing to learn, or rather to unlearn, is that men of genius need not and do not work. It is very natural for a young man in his callow days to imagine that he has a genius for this or that occupation, and that if he but had

the opportunity he would astonish the world by his achievements in that line. There can be no greater mistake. The fact is that men of genius are the very best workers, and are more ready and able to work than other people. Men of genius are generally the last to admit that they are possessed of any advantage over their fellows in their special line, but will be found always ready to attribute their success to hard work. Work is a necessity, and, while in men of genius —great men, so-called, it will produce great results, and in men of no genius and of small capacity small results, it will always

PRODUCE ADEQUATE RETURNS.

If a young man always does his best, his success will be all that he deserves, while he will be happy in the consciousness that no man has done or can do more.

And in what I have said and am about to say on this subject, I do not want to be understood that it is alone applicable to those whose present necessities require them to work. In this world we know what we are, but not what we shall become. The rich man of to-day may be the poor man of next year. The rich man's son of to-day may see the time, even in his early man-

hood, when he will be cast helpless and penniless upon the world. When that time comes he will have good cause to be thankful if his father required him to learn some trade or profession by which he may be able to earn an honest livelihood.

It is a grave mistake, yea, it is a crime in this country, for any one to grow to manhood without learning a trade, occupation, or profession. The useful employment of time gives dignity and character to an individual, and is a duty he owes to

SOCIETY AND HIMSELF,

no matter what may be the circumstances and surroundings of himself or family. It is only the money a man earns that does him any good. At least it is not until he has learned to make money that he is fit to spend what he has inherited.

No more pitiable object is found in our busy, working world than one who has reached manhood without having fitted himself for some useful pursuit. When he comes to be thrown upon his own resources, he finds himself as helpless as a child, and only capable of performing the most ordinary labor, which commands the

lowest wages. Such a man is continually in the road, and soon becomes a nuisance to himself and to everybody else.

It may be that a man may not be required to follow an occupation when it is once acquired, but nothing gives such a feeling of manly independence, whatever his lot in life may be, as to know that he has the means of acquiring an honest livelihood, which no monetary trouble or business disaster can take away from him.

Circumstances often determine the occupation of a young man, independently of his choice. That which he

FINDS NEXT TO HIS HAND

he is very apt to take hold of, and if he is made of the right sort of stuff he will be pretty sure of success.

Moses doubted his ability to do a certain work which God commanded him to do. "What is that in thy hand?" was asked of him by the Almighty. It was a simple staff, yet it was sufficient to show the shepherd leader that he was intended for mighty things. That staff became an unconquerable power in his hands. It opened rivers, cleft rocks, and delivered a nation from bondage. David, when the mighty man of Gath

defied the army of Israel, felt his youthful ardor strong to rebuke the braggart, and with what he had in his hand, a few small pebbles from the brook and a rude sling, he laid the giant low, and saved his nation.

So with us. We look to a distance, examine the high positions, long for the command of armies, the management of railroads, the ownership and control of great factories; but those things did not come to their owners and managers in that way. They looked about them, and one saw a position as brakeman open to him, and he took it, and did his work so well, and was so

WATCHFUL OF THE INTERESTS

of his employers, that he was promoted, step by step, until he came to be a manager.

Another saw that a vacancy existed as cabin boy on a small vessel, and he took it, and to-day walks the bridge of a mighty ocean steamer, its captain in every sense of the word.

Nearly all the men who now occupy places of great responsibility in factories or railways, or other large enterprises, have fought their way to their positions. They do not owe it to influence or favoritism, but to solid work; they have conquered their places, in a word.

Such openings are occurring every day. The difficulty is they look so small, so unimportant and obscure, and the highest places look so distant, so unattainable and dim, that it requires large faith to start in to climb the dizzy height, where so many struggle and so many fail.

The example of Thurlow Weed, who died in New York during 1883, is one which may be studied with great profit by all boys who are getting ready to make a start in life. Mr. Weed was born, and passed the early years of his life, in the most bitter poverty. He was too poor to wear shoes in the coldest winter weather, but he was not too poor to work at anything he could find to do. As cabin boy on a Hudson River sloop he was able to earn a few cents a day, with which he aided his parents. As helper to a blacksmith he received six cents a day, all of which went to the support of his family. These things came to his hand, and he did them to the best of his ability. A few years later he became a printer's apprentice, and this he made his life work, and won great success.

"He that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

I conclude, therefore, that it is more important how one works than at what he works. He may

fail where there are the most flattering prospects at the outset. He may succeed where the outlook is altogether discouraging. Under such circumstances, any advice what to do is needless, but a knowledge of how to do is always valuable, even indispensible. It is for this reason that the present chapter has been more an injunction to thoroughness, industry, and fidelity, than to any specific suggestions as to any special trade or calling.

How to Succeed.

Nothing more completely baffles one who is full of trick and duplicity than straightforward and simple integrity in another.

—Calton.

Let honesty be as the breath of thy soul, and never forget to have a penny when all thy expenses are enumerated and paid; then shall thou reach the point of happiness, and independence shall be thy shield and buckler, thy helmet and crown; then shall thy soul walk upright, nor stoop to the silken wretch because he hath riches, nor pocket an abuse because the hand which offers it wears a ring set with diamonds. — Franklin.

Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings. — Solomon.

HEN a young man is ready to commence business, whether for himself or another, it is all important that he start right. He is very apt to blunder. And one of his first blunders will be, that though business is a thing that must be

attended to, yet he will do just as little of it as possible. The next mistake will be, if he is a subordinate, that his employer is trying to get the greatest amount of work out of him for the smallest pay.

When a young man has been accustomed to having a good, easy time, with a leisure day or two every week, with long school vacations, business in earnest, at the start, will seem insufferably tiresome and almost unendurable. If such a feeling is yielded to, it will grow until it takes such a hold that its victim will be worthless, and his dismissal will speedily follow. Don't

UNDERTAKE AN ENTERPRISE

unless you are conscious of energy and persistance enough to carry it through. Make up your mind to this before you begin, and then fight your natural repugnance to sustained effort as if your life depended on it.

The day this chapter was written, the author was in conversation with a successful business man who has risen to a leading commercial position by his own unaided efforts, and is now at the head of the largest mercantile establishment in his city, transacting a business amount-

ing to millions of dollars' worth a year. We were talking of the boys of the period, and of their business promise. He employs many boys and young men in his operations, and is naturally observant of their methods and habits. Said he: "I always prefer the sons of poor parents. If they be but honest and decent, have a proper amount of self-respect, and have imparted these qualities to their children, I care not how poor they are. They know they must rely on their own efforts; that they cannot run home to be

CODDLED AND PETTED

if anything goes wrong at the store. From such boys I get faithful service; they have no money to waste while wasting my time; they have no future of wealth to look forward to but such as they win for themselves, and the greatest inducement they have, the only inducement, in fact, is to stick close to their work."

To the inquiry, what he considered the most essential qualities in a young man to true business success, he replied; "Hard work, a thorough acquaintance with all the details of the business, and faithfulness in the smallest things. Another important requisite is honesty. With these as

leading characteristics, a boy can soon make his employer feel that he is indispensable, and then his fortune is made. This is especially true if he is also careful to shun the dangers and temptations which beset the young man in the city, and which are so apt to beguile him from his work or to distract his thoughts from the business that needs all his attention."

If you would succeed, you must make your business the chief object of your life; I mean, of course, in a worldly sense. Everything else must be subordinated to it. Recreation, amusements, if harmless and not too frequent, are all well enough in their way, but they must be secondary and not allowed to distract your mind from other and

MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS.

It is indispensable that you be thorough in your mastery of details. The best way to do this is to begin at the bottom and work your way steadily upward, learning every method and process by the way. A few years ago I was the guest of a manufacturer, of large wealth, in a foreign city. He had worked his way up from a very humble beginning, and was living in luxury at the time of my visit. His son was associated

with him in the business, in which he had been thoroughly trained. At a dinner party one day at which were a number of guests, the son spoke of having spent some years in Germany. "You were there attending an university, I presume," remarked one of the guests, an American gentleman. "No," was the reply, "I was in a flax mill, studying the German method of linen manufacture, as an apprentice." He had received a liberal education, learned the business of his father, and went abroad to acquire additional skill and information in the same line. This is what makes thorough workmen. A year or two in youth employed in this way is worth more as an investment than large capital.

IT IS THE SAME IN BUSINESS

as in the study of any branch of science, it is thoroughness and accuracy in the mastery of details that insures success. It is one thing to have a general knowledge of a business, but quite a different thing to be familiar with all its details. The employer soon sees the difference in his subordinates, and when he promotes any one, it is not the man that was merely faithful in the little routine of duty assigned him, but that one who not only attended faithfully to his own

work, but also had his eyes open to what was going on around him, and had mastered the details of all.

Never shirk a duty, nor invent excuses for not doing something, merely because it may not be entirely agreeable. Rather study to find work to do. Be early at the store or shop, and don't be in a hurry to leave when the time comes to quit work. If you see anything to do after the bell rings to stop work, do not hesitate to wait and do it. Show in this way that your employer's interests are your own. You will lose nothing by this method, and even if you do not attract your employer's attention by it, you will cultivate a habit that will be useful to you always.

Be careful of

YOUR PERSONAL HABITS,

for they have a controlling influence in all business matters. Intemperate, licentious and indolent habits are destructive of all business success. Be honest: and by this I mean be industrious. A boy may not take money from his employer's drawer, and yet he robs him of that which is worth money when he wastes his time.

What has been said refers to business and the employment of business hours. There is much

time when you are not at the store or shop, nor under the eye of your employer. There are your evening hours, your Sundays and your holidays, when your time is your own to employ as you please. Yet even in this leisure time you should not lose sight of the interests of your employer. Those pleasures which impair the health, injure the reputation, and distract the attention from more serious matters, are a direct injury to your employer. He is entitled to your best service, which he cannot have if your energies are wasted by sinful excesses. You cannot serve him well if your reputation is soiled by evil associations. Reputable customers do not wish to be waited upon by a clerk or a salesman who is known to frequent saloons, gambling houses, and brothels.

THEN YOUR LEISURE

should be employed in improving your mind, in studying the literature of the day, in familiarizing yourself with the commercial condition of the country, especially with respect to its bearing on your own particular line of business, in studying the general condition of trade and finance. These things are always useful, and you may be placed in an emergency where such knowledge will not only be valuable but indispensable, and

the possession of which will insure your speedy promotion.

Don't be in too great haste to become a proprietor. Well paid and thoroughly competent subordinates very often have great advantage over their employers. They are free from care and worry, because they have no heavy responsibility outside their own department, nor are they obliged to assume the inevitable risks that attach to all business transactions. Young men are very apt to rush into business on their own account too soon, and they

FAIL FOR VARIOUS REASONS.

They have not mastered all the details; they have mistaken ideas of business management; they have never learned to appreciate the serious responsibilities of proprietorship; they seek popularity and show more than solid success; they think more of fine clothes, a fast horse, and a taking style, than of a healthy balance at the bank and the ability to discount their own bills; they are without any laudable ambition to make an honorable and enduring reputation in the world. Many have wrong ideas of what constitutes success. They mistake the gilded article for the pure metal,

From labor health from health contentment springs:
Contentment apes the source of every joy.

"And give to dust that is a little gilt
More laud than gilt o'er dusted."

Then there is great danger of men becoming so absorbed in business as to neglect the higher and more sacred duties of life. And this danger does not threaten young men alone, but is more apt to overtake men of more mature years who have achieved wealth, and are consumed with a desire to increase it. The man who can show nothing but a large fortune as the result of his life work has made a poor, miserable failure of it. He has been envied in life, but not respected, nor honored, and in his death he will not be mourned. The world is no better because he has lived in it for fifty, sixty, or seventy years. He leaves no enduring monument behind him, and is remembered only through his children, who are probably worse off because of the fortune he spent his life to heap up for them.

Real success is symmetrical, well rounded, and complete in all its parts. It regards the inner life, the character, as well as and more than mere money wealth. There are men with millions who are as poor as poverty itself in all that makes life really worth living. There are others whose only capital is in their busy hands, who are rich beyond the miser's wildest dreams of

wealth. When the former leave their money bags and creep into the grave, the world unmoved estimates the riches they have left behind. When the latter pass away, their fragrant memories linger, and the world estimates the rich deposits they have gone to enjoy, and is better because they have lived.

When the man who has achieved the highest success is called hence, he leaves a blank that is hard to fill. We miss his genial presence, his wise and helpful advice, his pleasant words of encouragement and admonition. It is hard to fill the void such men leave. But we have his memory and his influence left behind, and it

REMAINS FOR GOOD

for many years. Our attention is attracted by a strip of verdure across the parched and brown pasture, and we seek the cause. The owner of the field tells us there was once a brook there which was buried years before and conducted through a tile, and its course is indicated by the richer pasturage. So in the place where the truly successful man lived and moved and died; the whole neighborhood is richer and better because of the influence he has left, and even after his name and history may have faded from

the memory of men his influence may be found indelibly impressed upon succeeding generations.

Were the world made up of mere money getters, what a dreadful place it would be! Men would look with suspicion and hatred upon one another. The Vanderbilts, the Astors, and the Goulds would be the ideals, while philanthropy and Christian charity and brotherly love would be unknown. Life among savages would be preferable; for there a man is respected for what he really is, for his physical powers, his courage and success in war and the chase. Believe me, to have succeeded only in accumulating a fortune in gold is a comfortless thing to look back upon when life is done. The time comes to all men when money is the least comforting of all possessions.

It is all important, then, that you learn in early life to put the true relative value upon money, and do not let the love of it come between you and your desire for the better qualities of the heart and soul. It was not money, but "the love of money," that the great Apostle called "the root of all evil." It was the admonition of a wise man, that "a good name is rather to be chosen than great riches," and the better judgment of the world approves the sentiment.

The Practice of Law.

A lawyer's dealings should be just and fair,
Honesty shines with greater advantage there.

— Cowper.

THE same remarks will apply in a general way to the law. To deserve success is to devote years to the study, and to bring to it not only natural aptness and fitness, but as thorough an equipment as books and teachers can give. The rest comes only through experience.

At the risk of discouraging the young man who intends to become a lawyer, I quote what Sir William Blackstone, the very highest legal authority, said in regard to the necessary preliminary education for a young lawyer: "If the

student in our laws hath formed both his sentiments and his style by perusal and meditation of the purest writers, among whom the historian and orator will best deserve his regard; if he can reason with precision, and separate argument from fallacy by the clear, simple rules of pure, unsophisticated logic; if he can fix his attention, and steadily pursue truth through the most intricate deduction by the use of mathematical demonstrations; if he has enlarged his conceptions of nature and art by a view of the several branches of genuine experimental philosophy; if he has impressed on his mind the sound

MAXIMS OF THE LAW

of nature, the best and most authentic foundation of laws; * * * if he has done this, or any part of it, * * * a student thus qualified may enter upon the study of the law with incredible advantage and reputation."

Few of our young men will be able to get such a preparation, but they should come as near to it as possible. The facilities for acquiring the education are abundant, as has been shown elsewhere. If they are neglected, it will be for want of patience, or a lack of appreciation of their importance. If they are neglected, you will

regret it more keenly every year that you live, for it is a neglect that can never be made up in after years.

If the young professional man deserves success by reason of fitness and preparation, and has determined to achieve it only through honorable effort, he may reasonably hope in ten year's practice to have gained an income on which he can live comfortably, and begin to save something each year.

Success sometimes comes suddenly, either by some unexpected stroke of good luck, by fortunate business alliances, or by methods which would be termed unprofessional by the

HIGH-MINDED AND HONORABLE

members of the profession. Success by the latter means can only be temporary, as it can only come through a sacrifice of what is the jewel of an honest practitioner, his good name, his self-respect, or his manhood. And even where success comes through a happy chance, it is more apt to be ephemeral, as it tends to deprive the young man of that discipline which years of effort affords, and which is his necessary and best preparation and foundation for substantial and enduring success.

I have an instance in my mind of sudden success which came to a young lawyer, which may serve as an encouragement to others, and show that it is all important to be able to take advantage of such chances when they arise. A young man in the city had been some years trying to build up for himself a law practice ; but he had come in from the country, had but few influential acquaintances, was not of such a social nature as to increase

HIS CIRCLE OF FRIENDS,

and had not the faculty of pushing himself forward to the notice of such men as could advance his interests. He became greatly discouraged, and had about concluded that he had made a mistake in his calling, and began to consider whether he had not better go back to the old farm, and follow the pursuit of his ancestors. At this juncture a lawyer friend, who was going on his summer vacation, asked him to occupy his vacated house during the family's absence. The offer was gladly accepted, as it enabled him to occupy more eligible quarters, and greatly reduce his expenses, and, to his delight, he found among his friend's possessions a large and well selected law library.

It so happened that he had in his hands at that time a case of some importance, to himself, at least, on appeal to a higher court. He had ample time — nothing else to do, in fact, the library was ready to his hand, and he spent the summer in the study and preparation of his case. He did it, too, in so thorough and exhaustive a manner that he became absolute master of the whole history of jurisprudence bearing upon it. He had but little hope of profit from it, but he was a thorough believer in the importance of doing well whatever he undertook, and he executed this piece of work in the

MOST ADMIRABLE MANNER.

The term of court at which the case was to be argued came at last, and the young man's opportunity was at hand. It is a proverb among lawyers that cases are more frequently won in the office than in the court room, and the young man verified the adage. He showed himself thorough master of the case, and was able to present it with such clearness and force that he at once arrested the attention of the judges, and held it to the close of his argument.

One of the judges had already decided to retire from the bench, and return to general

practice. The young man's presentation of the case arrested his attention, and the result was an invitation to an interview. His faithful summer's work in the preparation of his case bore fruit in the shape of a partnership in a leading law firm, which soon became, and is at this time, among the most lucrative and influential in the city where it is located.

This incident is used in connection with a chapter on the practice of law, but it is equally applicable to all other occupations. It illustrates a fact that men are too prone to forget in their

PERIODS OF DEPRESSION

and discouragement, that every life has its opportunity. At some time along the road — it may be at the roughest and darkest place — success stands waiting, ready to be embraced. It may not be recognized at the first glance, but that man who learns to use every opportunity as if it were the great opportunity, the turning point of his life, is pretty sure not to miss the crown because its brilliancy is not apparent when first seen.

It is true that life is full of ups and downs; changes and discouragements and disappointments meet one at every turn; but these are not

all of life. It is equally full of prizes, of rewards, of opportunities. They may not come until the end of a long and tedious course of patience and discipline. But to every true worker they do come, in one form or another, at least. Life is a battle in which there is no utter defeat to those who strive lawfully. It is a race in which prizes are gained by all those who run faithfully to the end.

To all who are at the point of utter discouragement I would say, think of the host of brave men who have plucked success out of the very jaws of failure. Your moment of success will surely come.

ONLY WORK AND WAIT.

How often we meet men whom the world calls successful, and whom men admire for that success, who are the merest children of chance. Their success was the result of a word, a look, a hint, or a suggestion, with which they had nothing to do.

I have frequently been asked to name a man for some important trust, and have been in positions where it was necessary to make important appointments. There may have been a hundred or more applicants for such positions.

The success of the successful man, perhaps, depended on a word or a hint as to his fitness. In the world's judgment that one man had succeeded and all the rest had failed, although he might have been the least deserving in reality.

While this will not serve to illustrate the chances of that success which comes only in a field where competition is open and untrammelled, it does illustrate a large number of those cases which the world at large looks upon as solid successes. There is such

AN INFINITY OF TRIFLES

which may either make or mar our efforts; the whole game is so intricate and complicated that it is not worth while to fret and worry. The best course is to humbly and faithfully do your duty in the place you are, and leave the issue to a higher power. It is well to succeed if one is worthy and deserving and has made use of no questionable methods, but it is infinitely better in the long run to deserve success.

There is a popular notion that to be a successful lawyer one must forego his honesty, and make himself subservient to the will of every scoundrel who desires to be screened from the consequences of his misdeeds. And, unfortunately, there are

too many evidences that such is the fact, but it is far from the truth. The men who have attained to great eminence in the profession have been men of the very highest moral character, and whose virtues have adorned every walk of life. Bad men there are in the profession in large numbers, but the community seems to find out their real character sooner than they do of other men. Their methods of business, the character of the clients and of the cases that come to them, and many other things, indicate

THEIR REAL STANDING,

and they do not for long deceive the public. They are dangerous men. They encourage litigation, undertake hopeless cases, and to gain their ends will manufacture testimony, even to the suborning of witnesses.

Such men are often successful for a time, in the sense that an undetected robber, or a gambler is successful; that is, they make money, even become wealthy, but it is money that never brings happiness; it is success that can never command respect. For such men I have no advice, except to mend their ways. They should be referred to only as examples to be avoided, and should be known only to be shunned.

Law students are very apt to become imitators of their preceptors, in modes of thought and methods of practice. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that care should be exercised in the choice of a preceptor, as it may determine irrevocably the future career of the student. If he be a man who is unscrupulous in his methods of practice, who always encourages litigation, accepts all cases, and becomes the attorney for all who seek his services, his student will follow in his footsteps.

LET HIM SEEK A MAN

as his preceptor who is known in the community in which he lives as a man of probity of character, who discourages, rather than encourages, litigation, whose word is as good as his bond, and to whom professional honor is not a mere empty phrase. There be such men in the profession, and while they may not be those to whom the thoughtless crowd flocks on the occasion of a sensational scandal, they are generally the practitioners to whom men apply who have grave and important issues at stake, and who reach deserved eminence in the profession and the State.

The rewards of the legal profession are very great. If you are able, and honest, and faithful

to the interests of your clients, you will not fail to secure a position in public confidence. As soon as you secure a foothold in the profession, your business capacity and legal talent will be their own best advertisers. The legal profession offers the best field for the display of all those qualities of the human mind that go to dignify and adorn the best phases of life, and vast possibilities lie within its sphere. This brings the successful lawyer prominently into political life, the rewards of which he finds it difficult to decline. Then, also, the judicial positions are open to lawyers alone, and, when worthily filled, they are among the most useful and honorable of all our official positions.

The pecuniary rewards are also very great, and limited only by the client's ability and the lawyer's conscience, after his position in the profession is secured. But whether wealth comes or not, you will be pretty sure to enjoy the respect of the people, and feel that you belong to a class that comes as near to being an aristocracy, or an order of nobility, as we shall ever see in this country.

The Practice of Medicine.

A wise physician, skilled, our wounds to heal,
Is more than armies to the public weal. — Pope.

SHOULD the choice fall upon the profession of medicine as a life calling, demand will be made upon other and very different qualities and tastes from those requisite in a mercantile or, indeed, any other profession or occupation. But here the same general line of remark will apply, that there can be no enduring success without the closest application and devotion. To be a successful and eminent physician is to occupy one of the noblest positions given to man to attain. But there is no royal road to it. It can only be

reached by years of hard study at great expense, and not then without some special natural fitness for its particular duties.

Dr. Willard Parker, himself an eminent physician, has recently given some excellent and practical advice to young men about to prepare for the practice of medicine, which is full of valuable suggestions. He says that "a young man, to become a physician, must possess a sound body, with a head and a heart; the body to be trained to endurance, the head and the heart to be educated. These are the data which constitute

THE ELEMENTS OF SUCCESS."

He elaborates this idea by saying that a man may have an intellect, but no heart, and he does not succeed; "he is as dry as a stick." Another one may have a heart, but no head. Such an one melts away and faints just when he is most needed.

He says, also, that no man should enter the profession unless he has a love for it, and that no man should decide on entering it until he is at least twenty or twenty-two years of age, and has become convinced, after mature deliberation, that he is fitted for its duties and responsibilities. Before that age, if he has a well-defined taste for

it, he can profitably spend his time in the study of those branches which will be needed in his practice, but which will also be useful in any profession; as, botany, entomology, geology — almost any of the sciences, in fact.

In this occupation, perhaps more than any other, the man must have a love for the study and the practice to such an extent as to enable him to keep up his study through life with enthusiasm. The true physician is as keen to learn the last year of his professional life as he was the first, and he

STUDIES IN ALL BOOKS,

draws information from all sources — from the most recent graduate from the schools as well as from the most experienced practitioners.

But the wise physician will not be too much wedded to his books. Books he will of course use as long as he lives, but after he has acquired the elements of his profession he must learn to see with his own eyes, to use his own judgment. It is not the most learned men in books who are the best practitioners. A man may be able to discourse learnedly on the theory of disease, and have the textbooks at his tongue's end, so to speak, who, when he is brought to the bedside of

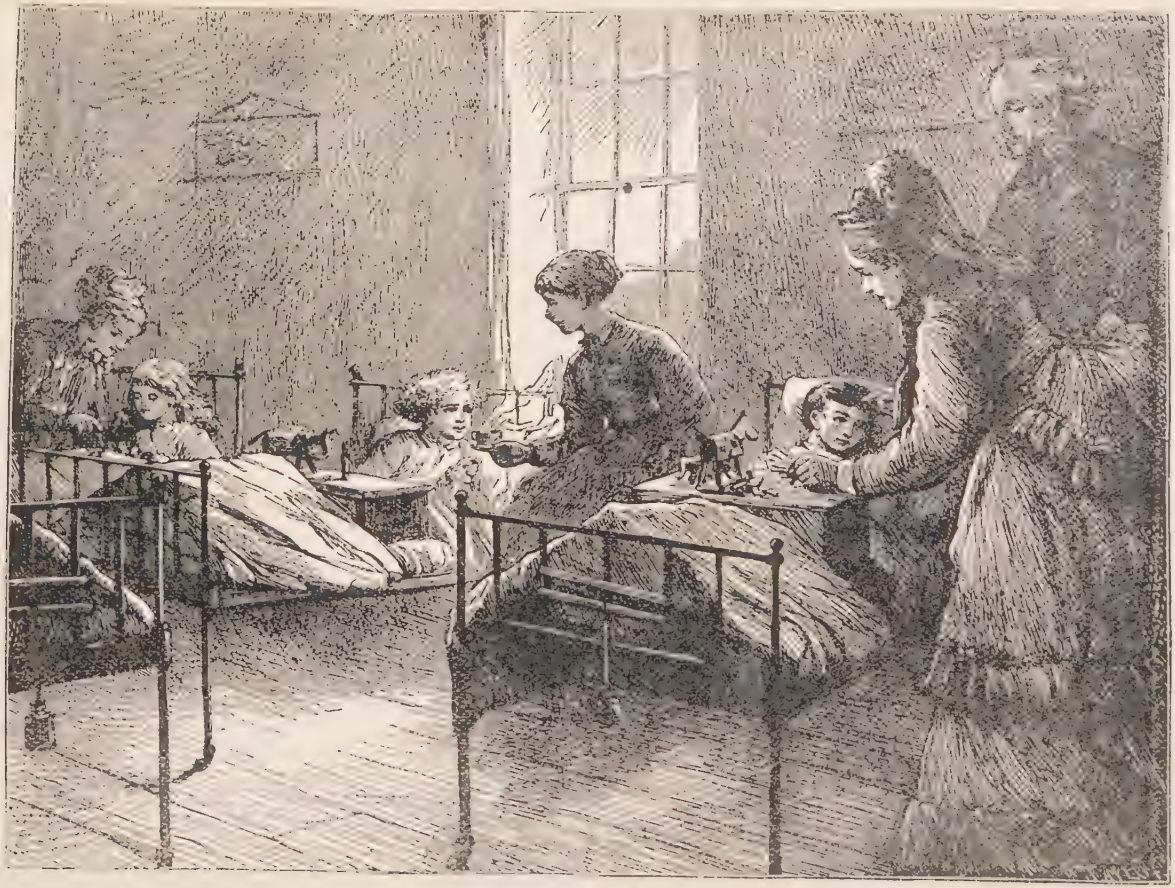
a patient, is entirely helpless. They try to look at a case in the light of the books they have read alone, and something in the patient's condition may set his book knowledge at defiance. Sound common sense is an admirable thing at all times, but it is especially so to a physician at the bedside of a sick man.

It is necessary to have a sound and thorough preliminary education, as good, in fact, as is possible to be obtained. Latin and Greek should be mastered, for the profession abounds in technical terms in those languages. In the large cities in this country a knowledge of the

MODERN LANGUAGES,

French and German, at least, is important, and in many places necessary. This will enable him to keep himself posted in the researches and development of foreign medical men, and will facilitate his travel abroad, which he ought to undertake, if at all possible.

It is deemed essential, nowadays, to spend four years at college, an equal time in medical studies, and, if possible, two or three subsequent years in hospital practice in this country or Europe, for the highest position in the profession. Many attain it with less time spent in study, but



The primal duties shine aloft, like stars;

they would have been vastly better off with the additional preparation. Thus, at the end of ten or eleven years, one is ready to enter upon the struggle for wealth and position in a profession that seems already crowded. But crowded as this and every other profession is, bear in mind that there is always room at the top. There it is never crowded.

A conscientious and honestly ambitious young man, such as I presume my reader to be, though ever so well equipped for his profession, must prepare himself to be set aside and distanced in the race by

QUACKS AND CHARLATANS,

who resort to questionable methods for temporary success, and he will often be humiliated by seeing such men rise suddenly to wealth and fame by speculating on the credulity of the ignorant and superstitious.

If it be wealth alone that you seek to acquire through the profession, it will be more certain of attainment through the preparation and sale of some patent medicine than by the highest eminence in the regular and legitimate practice. I have taken it for granted that my reader looks for success in a straightforward and correct way

alone, and is too well grounded in principle to resort to such methods.

He who presumes to lay his hand on the human frame as a healer should bring to his profession a due sense of awe at the approach to so fearful and wonderful a piece of mechanism. Only Almighty skill and knowledge was able to adjust its marvellous parts into one harmonious whole, and the highest attainable human wisdom and knowledge are absolutely needed for its adjustment when any of its parts have grown diseased or discordant.

TO THE PHYSICIAN

the highest range of knowledge is a necessity. It should compass almost everything that is known, whether in the heavens above, in the earth beneath, or in the waters under the earth. And such knowledge is almost wholly in the field of the sciences — anatomy, physiology, chemistry, pathology, materia medica, and etiology. To this is to be added a familiarity with optics, acoustics, and the diagnosis of disease. This opens up the wide field of the study of hygiene, and the rules for the discovery of which of those laws have been violated. The next step is to inquire how the deranged functions or organs can be restored

to the state of harmony with the laws provided for health.

And just here Dr. Parker mentions one of the great difficulties in the way. The medical man encounters ignorance and superstition. The patient knows nothing of God's laws as regards his own system; but he has faith in medicine, for he has sent for the doctor, and he thinks he must have medicine or he cannot recover. "To illustrate: What is his disease? He is living in a bad atmosphere, his body being created for a good one. Place him in pure air, clean him, make him exercise, give him a bread pill, and he is soon well. And the pill, according to the patient's ideas, has worked wonders."

TOO MANY DOCTORS,

he says, do not take nature into account at all, and they go to work dosing the patient, and "the poor man has to get well in spite of both the doctor and the disease." "Let them comprehend the law that has been violated, and then see how to get the sick man in harmony with those laws; in other words, in health."

As has been said, although the medical profession is crowded, the chances are as good as they ever were to succeed, but the man who tries

must be well equipped for the contest, both naturally and by education. And then, in addition, he must be always attentive, and always at work. To some, success comes suddenly, by reason of a reputation acquired through some celebrated case which has been successfully treated. Any day may develop such a case, but the physician must be fully prepared for it when it comes.

The author from whom I have quoted deprecates the facility with which medical graduates are turned out, so many of them being unqualified by nature, character, or education, to be successful. Such a policy is doing injustice to young men as well as to society, and perhaps taking them out of a field in which they could be useful, and putting them into one where they can be of great injury to a community.

THE PROFESSION OF MEDICINE

also opens up an excellent field for women. Their success is no longer an experiment in that direction. Women are at least as apt to have a natural fitness for the profession as men. A woman of intelligence, with the proper education and preference for the practice of medicine, can be instrumental in doing great good in the healing of disease, without in the least unsexing herself,

or making her less capable of discharging the duties of a good wife, mother, sister, or neighbor.

Female physicians can teach women to manage their children, and in all diseases of their own sex and of children there is a fitness in their officiating that is rapidly becoming recognized in all grades of society. There are now so many females engaged in the practice who have attained success that the sneers of old fogies at the so-called innovation on the manly prerogative excite only derision and contempt. As in so many other directions, woman has vindicated her right to a fair chance with the sterner sex.

ROOM IN THE MINISTRY.

I venerate the man whose heart is warm,
Whose hands are pure, whose doctrine and whose life
Coincident, exhibit lucid proof
That he is honest in the sacred cause. — COWPER.

Men of God have always, from time to time, walked among men, and made their commission felt in the heart and soul of the commonest hearer. — EMERSON.

FOR the office of the minister an additional element is needed beyond what has been suggested as necessary in the other professions. I mean a pronounced and clearly defined Christian character and experience, which will sustain a man to work, deny himself, sacrifice himself, if need be, in the prose-

cution of his calling, but as I feel myself unfitted to treat this subject properly, I prefer to use the thoughts of Rev. John Hall, D. D., of New York, in an article furnished by him a short time ago in the Christian Union.

When we enter upon the strictly professional training of the minister, much will depend upon its thoroughness, and the zeal and energy with which he avails himself of his opportunities. Ministers may have literary tastes, and much knowledge of a general kind, and yet be deficient in the departments where their special work may be supposed to lie. In too many instances

WELL EDUCATED MINISTERS

miss success because their knowledge, while of a useful kind when put into books, is not brought into direct contact, in a practical way, with the hearers to whom they address themselves. Much more attention ought to be paid to that in our seminaries.

The ministry, making its appeal to the average human mind, has to study points of contact with the mind, methods of presenting admitted truth, and wise suggestions as to the application of that truth to the life of the hearers. Common sense is to be exercised, developed, and used in the

approach to the understanding and the conscience of the hearers. Ministers, in many instances, appear to effect less than they ought to do, from yielding to the temptation to push their present interests. They hasten to repeat slight successes, fall into the habit of dwelling with undue complacency on results obtained, instead of prosecuting, with increased diligence, the work given them, and leaving results to speak for themselves. The best and

MOST SUCCESSFUL MINISTERS,

in the ordinary sense of these words, are men who have never taken a single step toward their own professional promotion. They have not sought for their places; they have been sought for the places.

No rule can be laid down as to methods of preparation of sermons that would apply to all cases. Some are more effective in their reading of what they have written: others make a deeper impression by dispensing with the paper. But in almost every case a man secures, for the best results, the only true preparation by putting on paper the thoughts, and, in substance, the vehicle of language by which they are to be conveyed. It is easy to suppose that we have definite

thought while simply meditating. The placing of the supposed thought in distinct, written form, enables us, better than anything else, to estimate its definiteness and its value. Any man who relies upon his power of so-called extemporaneous speaking may occasionally produce an impression, but it is likely to fail in the end as a trustworthy instructor of his fellow men.

If a minister's conception of a sermon is that of an article in a Quarterly Review, he cannot do much pastoral work and prepare such a sermon every week. But the Review idea is not

THE TRUE IDEA OF A SERMON.

A minister thoroughly acquainted with his Bible, and in sympathy with the real wants of the people, and intent upon their moral benefit through the bringing of their minds into close and habitual contact with the Divine Word, need have no difficulty in preparing two discourses in the week, and at the same time accomplishing a great amount of purely pastoral work. Indeed, in the honest and faithful doing of pastoral work will frequently be found the most effective stimulus and assistance in the preparation of useful sermons. The Divine Word is adapted by Him who gave it to the moral and spiritual needs of

men. That adaptation is rendered clearer by close contact with the people in their joys and sorrows, their struggles, temptations, and bereavements. As society is now constituted, and especially in our busy cities, he will be disappointed who supposes that he can usefully fill the place of a minister who simply delivers well-prepared discourses on the Lord's Day. We have social affections and sympathies with which the minister must bring himself into personal contact, and so be able, through the Word which he ministers, to elevate and purify those social sympathies and affections. It is not enough that the minister visit the sick and conduct the funeral services. Prosperity and

CONTINUOUS WELFARE

constitute strong temptations to those who enjoy them, and a closer application of the Divine Truth than can be always made in the discourse frequently needs to be made in the visits of the pastor to the families of his charge. The young have to be approached; the sense of strangeness in relation to a pastor has to be removed. They have to be habituated to regard him as a man, a true man, a friend to them, with whom they can freely communicate; and this can hardly be

attained otherwise than by systematic visitation of the people in their homes.

The preaching of a minister will rarely rise or continue to be above the level of his own spiritual life. Everything, therefore, that is adapted to feed and develop that spiritual life is adopted by him. Intercourse with more experienced ministers, the study of the biographies of effective workers, especially the devout study of the Holy oracles, with the accompanying spirit which they everywhere inculcate — by these and similar methods (any man using that which his knowledge of himself shows to be adapted to his needs) he must maintain and strengthen within himself that sympathy with the Church's Head, and with the spirits of men, that will make preaching and pastoral work a constantly

CONGENIAL OCCUPATION.

It is the infelicity of ministers in our time, and especially in our great cities, that they are so constantly called upon to give time and attention to forms of effort that could be equally well attended to by Christian laymen. Charities, more or less useful, are thrown in a great degree upon the clergy. They who in too many instances pay no regard to their distinctive work as

ministers would fain employ them as agents and co-operators in general schemes or plans more or less intended to promote the public good. In many instances it is wise for the minister who would make the most of his time and resources, to decline effort in these directions. Organizations in which committees of pastors and committees of theatrical managers are expected to co-operate, and are placed substantially on the same level, may be, without impropriety, allowed to carry out their plans without the active co-operation of laborious and fully occupied clergymen. This is not to be understood, however, as applying to

DEPARTMENTS OF WORK

in which the educational is the leading element. The time will probably come in our country when ministers and people will agree that a larger share in the supervision of the common education of the country ought to be placed in the minister's hands.

It is difficult to see, on the principles already stated, how a minister can be regarded as performing his whole duty who is practically out of all contact with the young of his parish in the week-day educational work and life. It may be

true that our school system is effectively managed by those who have it in hand, but it will probably be found true that society, as a whole, would be benefited, and not injured, by a closer contact between those who enjoy the advantages of our common school system. If we look to the higher education of the country, it will be found that ministers have largely contributed to its efficiency of machinery and to its manifold results. But the higher education is only enjoyed by a limited portion of the community. There is surely need for the ministry and the great forces they represent being brought into immediate contact with the masses of the young in the formative period of their lives and in connection with

THEIR SCHOOL WORK.

In this department it will also be found practically true that the minister's power of enlisting attention and exercising an elevating influence in the Sabbath services would be increased by healthy intercourse with the young as they pursue their educational career. The complaint is too often made that the young are not sufficiently represented in our churches. May not this be the natural result of the general separa-

tion between the young and the clergy during the ordinary week-day life?

A word as to the conditions of success in the ministry. The practical mistake too often committed is to suppose the minister alone the active force in the congregation. A congregation is not a body of people to be worked upon simply; it is, by

ITS VERY NATURE,

a body of people to work and be worked with. Church officers, unless their names and offices be mere unmeaning words, have responsibility as fellow-laborers with the minister, and success in a good degree depends upon the former to enlist, direct, and stimulate that co-operation. The co-operation will assume many forms. It will be realized in the teaching of the young, in the visiting of the suffering and the bereaved, in the care of the financial interests of the religious community, and in the securing of an adequate maintenance for him who, by his office, is shut up to "living by the Gospel." A minister would be more or less than human who could put his whole nature into the work of religious teaching in a community and among a people pledged to give him unusual and material support, and yet

conspicuously failing to redeem its pledge. Men have often failed; the blame of their failure is to be distributed between themselves and the communities in which they were settled.

In present conditions, few men are likely to be truly successful who content themselves with the routine of ministration to those who take pews and place themselves under their charge. An aggressive work, a work of approaching those who are not sufficiently interested to take pews, must be attempted by those who would succeed in the ministry. And, finally, in estimating the

SUCCESS OF A MINISTER

we shall greatly mistake if we make our standard merely visible results. There may be a crowded audience, a coterie of enthusiastic admirers, a full treasury, and a high place in public esteem, and yet there may be little success in the eyes of Him who judges infallibly, and by whom rewards will be distributed at last. A great congregation may be simply a social gathering, held together by quite other than purely spiritual interest. But the real success is spiritual success; the true triumph is the triumph of the truth; and the solid results are the results that will be realized and displayed in the day when the Chief Shep-

herd and Bishop of Souls shall occupy the Throne in the character of Judge.

There are some evidences that well trained men are discouraged from entering the ministry because so many poorly trained men are taken into it. It is very natural for a young man to ask why he should spend ten years in hard study to fit himself for the ministry when others are readily admitted and put upon the same footing with him who has not spent a day, perhaps, in direct preparation for the calling. The law of demand and supply, however, works here as it does everywhere. If untrained men are wanted, they will be had. If well trained men are wanted badly enough to appreciate them by paying them, working for them, and waiting for them, they will be forthcoming.

Our colleges are full of pious young men. Show them that they are wanted, and must be had, and they will come.

Pleasure of Mercantile Life.

Who hath taken this counsel against Tyre, the crowning city, whose merchants are princes, whose traffickers are the honorable of the earth. — Isaiah xxiii: 8.

ET us suppose that the young man has chosen a mercantile life; he must not think that all that is necessary to success in it is the ability to sell wares and merchandise over a counter to pleasant looking customers, and receive a certain price therefor. This may be the very least important part of the business, and it is a fact that those who can do no more are generally the poorest paid.

Enter one of the largest establishments of our large cities, where millions of dollars' worth of goods are sold in a year, and look about you. You see a large number of dapper looking young men, or young women, ready to wait upon you to anything you wish to purchase. They seem to be doing the large and prosperous business you see going on about you, because you see no one else who has anything to do with the establishment.

To the ordinary observer, especially the boy from the country, it seems that it would be the height of his ambition to fill one of these places. Yet when he learns that they are at the foot of the ladder, that the best of them receive scarcely enough pay to meet their necessary expenses for living, and that many of them have been in

THE SAME PLACE FOR YEARS

without promotion, it is apt to dampen his ardor for a mercantile life. When he learns that many of these counter salesmen earn a bare living after years of experience, he is apt to turn his thoughts to the old farm, and to wonder if, after all, it is not a surer and safer place for him to cast his lot.

But, having made his choice of an occupation, it is now too late to turn back, and we will suppose him fairly started on his career. At the

risk of discouraging the embryo merchant, I shall venture to tell him that success in mercantile life comes to but one in twenty of those who seek it there. Ninety-five men fail where but five succeed out of each one hundred who begin the business. To be one of the fortunate five, however, is of course the young man's ambition.

Remember, however, for your encouragement, that

THE SUCCESSFUL MERCHANTS

of to-day, as a rule, began their careers in the most humble positions, as office boys, porters, or messengers. A few years, more or less, in such positions develops their fitness for promotion into places of greater responsibility, when they are advanced. But to many promotion never comes, and they are messengers or porters to the end of the chapter, simply because they have not shown themselves fit for anything better.

I have an acquaintance in a Western city, now worth at least ten millions of dollars, President of one of the largest railway systems in the world, and the largest owner of a large bank, who began life a poor and friendless country boy, as a messenger in a store. He rose to the top because he was fitted for it. But his companion who

began with him at the foot of the ladder is at the foot to-day, because he never deserved anything higher, though perfectly faithful in his place.

Sometime after the young man has been in his new place in the store or shop his eye falls on a quiet, elderly man sitting in a pleasant and cozy office in a retired part of the establishment, who seems to have little or nothing to do, and he wonders if that man gets as much wages as the smartly dressed clerks behind the counters. He is greatly surprised when told that

THE QUIET MAN

is the proprietor of the great establishment; that his brain masters all the myriad of details of the business; that he has his purchasing agents in all the great markets of the world, and that his knowledge of the world's commerce and the daily fluctuations in the value of commodities is as perfect as it is necessary to success. After such information he looks upon the quiet man with awe, until told that years ago he came into the store from the country a very unpromising looking boy, and began to work in the very place where the present boy is now engaged. This fires his zeal, and the methods of the great merchant become his daily study, as the boy has already

fixed his ambition on the very head of this or a similar establishment.

Untiring industry, as has been said in another place, is the price of success in any calling, but probably more especially so in mercantile life. The same energy and zeal which is necessary to success as a merchant would win more certain wealth on a farm in far less time and with less danger of failure.

COMPETITION IS SO GREAT

in mercantile life in a great city that it is a life long battle against heavy odds. Fashions change, prices fluctuate, debtors fail, customers are capricious, trade changes its centres and its leading features, and through all the trader is in danger of loss.

On the other hand, farm products never go out of fashion; the demand for them never fails, but steadily increases with the growth of population, because they are the necessaries of life. The farmer plows and sows, and nature does the rest until harvest. Then he gathers into barns, and is certain of a good market.

In no other calling, perhaps, is it more necessary for the young man to utilize his leisure time, if he is aiming to be the head of the establish-

ment. It is very common for the clerk in a store, as soon as his day's duties are over, to start out for the theatre, the beer garden, or the dance hall, to spend his evening hours. Such young men seldom reach the position of proprietors. They argue that their leisure time is their own; that they have discharged their duty to their employers, and ought not to be expected to do more. In one sense this is true. Their time is their own; but it is not theirs to waste, or worse than waste, in questionable places and with questionable company. There are so many things outside of the regular routine of buying and selling goods that are necessary for a merchant to know, if he would be successful, that

HIS LEISURE TIME

can be most profitably employed in acquiring such knowledge. It is profitable, if not necessary, for him to be familiar with the different countries from which his goods, wares, or merchandise are drawn, their markets, their manufactories, their current prices, and even their language if possible. He should be familiar with ordinary questions of commercial law and the law of contracts, and with the drawing of agreements and other papers, so that he may be able

to act in cases of emergency where he has not time or opportunity to consult a lawyer. All these and many others will suggest themselves to the reader as of importance. In the exactions of business during business hours these things cannot be learned, and if not acquired in leisure moments the merchant may suffer irreparable loss for want of such knowledge.

But on general principles young men cannot be too often and urgently impressed with the importance of improving leisure time in the acquiring of useful information or the learning of some useful art. In this I speak particularly of leisure time, and not of any of those hours devoted to regular business. These should on no account be encroached upon.

And I urge this for several reasons. First, because it is more economical. With the great

MAJORITY OF YOUNG MEN

leisure time goes by, they know not how. To-night it is the theatre, to-morrow night it is a party, at another time it is a drive, or a sail on the river, and all is a kind of mental and moral dissipation, and it would be difficult to tell what they had done or learned outside of business hours during the past month.

Franklin said: "Dost thou love life? Then waste not time, for time is the stuff that life is made of." A systematic devotion of the spare hours to the prosecution of some plan of self-improvement will enable a young man to acquire an amount of useful knowledge which will make his life better worth living, besides being of material advantage in his daily duties.

It is desirable also on the ground of recreation. We frequently hear young men say they are too much fatigued after the labors of the day to read or study. Yet there is nothing so wearisome as idleness, and nothing so restful as change of employment.

> "A want of occupation is not rest,
> A mind quite vacant is a mind distressed."

There should be, of course, some exercise and recreation for the physical body, but we need something different for the mind. It must have occupation in some other direction, and this will be the most useful if devoted to the regular prosecution of some favorite study or pursuit. This will impart a more buoyant feeling to the mind, while at the same time acquiring proficiency in some useful study or art.

The course suggested is also useful as a protection. Idleness is the bane of youth, the mother

of vice, and the young man becomes useful or worthless, as a rule, in proportion as he has made use of his leisure time, properly or otherwise.

The youth who is at his post of duty is very seldom overcome by temptation; it is while he is at leisure. And if he falls into temptation while on duty, it is generally that he may get the means to enable him to indulge in vicious habits which he has acquired during his hours of misspent leisure. Make proper use of your leisure time, therefore, if you would ward off temptation, and shake off the influence of bad associations, and the fascination of evil haunts.

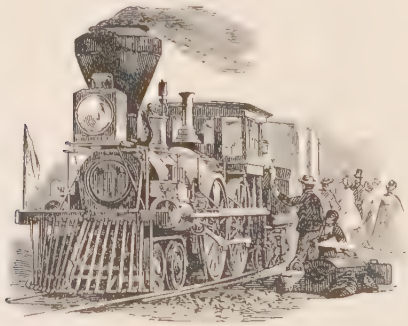
But above all, improve your leisure time, that you may be fitted for increased

USEFULNESS IN FUTURE LIFE.

A study of the biographies of the great men of the world will show that many of them attained their eminence by the very methods I have pointed out. Hugh Miller was a working stone mason, but so well did he improve his leisure time that he rose to eminence in literature and geology, and won a lasting and world-wide fame. Faraday, while a bookbinder's apprentice, employed his leisure time in the systematic study of chemistry, thus laying the foundation for his

wonderful reputation in the world of science. In our own country, Franklin, the printer boy, and Elihu Burrit, the blacksmith, so well improved their leisure time that they left the world wiser and better because they had lived in it.

Men fail in life, not so much for want of opportunity, as for lack of ability and attainments to embrace opportunities that offer. This lack, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, may be traced directly to the foolish and sinful frittering away of valuable time in idleness, or, what is worse, in sinful indulgence. It is a tolerably safe rule to be guided by, that "all time is wasted that might be better employed."



Plough deep while sluggards sleep
And you shall have corn
Both to sell and to keep.
—FRANKLIN.

The science of husbandry is extremely profitable to those who understand it; but it brings the greatest trouble and misery upon the farmers who undertake it without knowledge. —XENOPHON.

IN its broad sense, agriculture embraces everything that pertains to the working of the soil and obtaining food and clothing therefrom, whether it be through pasturage, hay, the herding, feeding, and fattening of animals, all that relates to the making and applying of fertilizers, the draining, and all

which tends to increase the productiveness of the soil. Agriculture in some of its forms has been the most important human industry from the earliest ages. The lowest human intelligences among barbarous races have depended on nuts and seeds for food, and soon learned to till the soil to increase its products. Animals were caught and tamed and used for beasts of burden, or for food. Thus man advanced by slow stages from barbarism upwards.

Agriculture is generally considered under two divisions, husbandry and horticulture. The first pertains to

THE FARM INDUSTRY

proper, and the second to the forest, the orchard, and the garden. These are subdivided and more or less separated into different industries. For instance, husbandry is divided into the cultivation of farm crops, stock breeding and feeding, and dairying, and horticulture into pomology, or all that relates to orchard products, arboriculture, or the planting and care of trees, vegetable gardening, or, as it is usually termed, "truck farming," floriculture, and landscape gardening.

Of late years these subdivisions have been more and more observed. Thus large farms are

used most largely for grain, immense tracts are devoted to the grazing and breeding of cattle, other farms are used exclusively for dairying. Thus the grain farmer may not be a breeder or feeder of stock, and the stock raiser pays no attention to grain production, while the dairyman looks to his pasturage and hay for support for his cows. Yet to be most successful the breeder must raise grain and hay to secure a succession and economical rotation of crops, thus maintaining and, if properly engaged in, increasing the

FERTILITY OF THE FARM.

As a country becomes more thickly settled, we see the more sagacious farmers combining the different kinds of farming on a single farm to a greater or less extent, and with satisfactory results. Thus mixed farming, as it is termed, has become the prevalent custom in the older States of the Union.

The early methods of agriculture in this country we find to be very similar to those in use in Great Britain. But circumstances of soil and climate required variation, which came as experience showed it to be necessary, and the earlier changes often provoked the sharp criticism of

our European friends, who imagined that their system could not be improved upon. In Europe land was dear and labor cheap, while here the opposite was true. The European land owner was therefore led to make the most he could of his land, while the American farmer was compelled to make the most he could of his labor. It is thought that our farmers even carried this to an extreme that was unprofitable, and that they might have derived more profit from their land and from their labor if they had limited their operations to as much land as they could

AFFORD TO TILL THOROUGHLY,

and manure liberally. Because a man owns a thousand acres it does not follow that he must attempt to scratch all over it merely to show his ownership. He may cultivate a portion of it thoroughly, leaving the rest to remain idle until he can treat it all in the same way.

The climate of this country and Great Britain is so widely different that different crops are also necessary. A large portion of our country is admirably adapted to the production of Indian corn, of which we have produced one and three-quarters billions of bushels in a single year, largely exceeding in value the cotton crop, which

The feast is such as earth, the general mother,
Pours from her fairest bosom, when she smiles
In the embrace of autumn.

Robinson

was so long considered the king of our products. We also produce more and better hay, because of the climate. These and many other causes combine to make the American farmer's condition much more prosperous than the farmer of other countries. He owns the soil he tills, as a rule, he is not burdened with so heavy taxes, and the products of his labor command more of the necessaries, comforts, and luxuries of life.

One effect of the cheaper land and higher labor referred to above has been the multiplication of labor by the introduction of machinery. But for many years the farmer who would

VENTURE ON EXPERIMENTS,

either in machinery or otherwise, subjected himself to the ridicule of a whole neighborhood. The value of fertilizers was little regarded, and the character of farm stock was what might be expected under such circumstances.

But changes were gradually made everywhere in all these respects, and the success of the changes has gradually disarmed prejudice. Animal and mechanical power has taken the place of manual labor to a large extent, and it is safe to say that in the last thirty years the progress and improvements in agricultural methods is not ex-

celled, if it is equalled, by the improvements in any other department of industry.

And I think it is not extravagant to say that in all the older settled portions of the United States the methods and processes of agriculture will compare favorably with those of any other country in the adaptation of the means to the end. Other countries produce larger relative crops, which is for the reason already mentioned, of the higher price of land, but we find it as yet more profitable to cultivate a larger area less thoroughly than to expend a larger amount of labor on a less area.

It is this that has increased

OUR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY,

and extended the area of our agricultural operations so wonderfully in the last thirty years. It has made our Western country the granary of the world, and enabled it to produce those immense herds of cattle, droves of swine, and flocks of sheep, that are found in every market of this country and Europe.

To show the rapid progress that has been made, some figures are given comparing the condition of agriculture in 1880, as shown by the last census, with its condition in 1850:

	1850.	1880.
Number of Farms	1,449,073	4,008,947
Acres contained	293,560,614	536,081,835
Acres improved	113,032,614	284,771,042
Per cent. improved	39½	54
Average size (acres)	203	134
Value	$3,271,575,426	$10,197,096,776
Implements and machinery	151,587,638	406,520,055
Value of live stock	544,180,516	1,500,464,609

It will be seen by these figures that the value of the investments in farms, implements, and machinery and live stock, in 1880, was $243 per capita of each man, woman, and child in the United States, being a grand aggregate of $12,104,081,440.

The value of the principal crops raised in 1879, including corn, wheat, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, potatoes, hay, cotton, and tobacco, was about $2,000,000,000. If to this were added the value of live stock sold in that year, and the butter and cheese produced, we would have an aggregate of not less than two and one-half billions of dollars for the year, or twenty-five per cent. more than the value of all the manufactures in the United States in the same year, deducting the value of the materials used, and more than half the entire cost of the railroads of the United States, and their equipments.

And agriculture contributes to the welfare of other interests in proportion to its magnitude and the extent of its operations. Without its products to transport, railway and steamship enterprises would languish, and the millions of operatives and stockholders would go idle and suffer. When agriculture is prosperous, every other interest feels the impulse and flourishes. When crops fail and exports fall off, stagnation in general business is the inevitable result, and financial ruin stares the country in the face.

What has brought all this wonderful increase in agricultural industry? It is the complete and

GENERAL SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

in this country, whereby every one is able to gather important facts in regard to his profession as rapidly as they occur. It is by reason of the perfection of machinery, the improvement of stock, and the fertile soil. These have enabled the farmers to keep pace with the teeming industries and population of this busy continent.

This growth has enabled the farmer not only to meet the demands at home, but to send to other countries the vast surplus that accumulates each year. Science has been his willing handmaid, and has enabled him to plow and sow,

cultivate his crops, harvest them and gather them into barns, thresh, winnow, and market, by the mere act of superintending machinery, which does the work like a thing of life and intelligence.

Mind acting on the material forces enables him to mow and rake, and load and mow, and feed his hay entirely by machinery. The wind has been harnessed to pump water for his stock, and for his house. He may dig drains, lay tiles, grind grain, prepare and feed fodder, sow and thresh, spade and hoe, and do a myriad of other things by the aid of iron and steel sinews while sparing his own.

Agriculture is the truest and most reliable

SOURCE OF NATIONAL WEALTH.

This view need not disparage or belittle commerce nor manufactures. Commerce, while pouring a broader stream of luxury and affluence into a community than agriculture, has a more demoralizing effect upon men and women. The wealth of agriculture is attended by a train of moral consequences, while that derived from commerce is useful only in its material form. The one tends to vitiate, the other to simplify, the habits of the people. The one undermines, the other strengthens, the foundations of the State. The

wealth of agriculture consists in that whose value is derived from its sufficiency to satisfy all the wants and desires which it provokes.

The primitive pursuits, the simple tastes, the limited wants of an agricultural community, are easily bounded by their acquisitions, and contentment cheerfully supplies the place of wealth. But the wealth that is derived from the commercial intercourse of nations is always creating an insatiable thirst for profusion and display.

GOLD AND SILVER

have their standard value, but so, in a more limited degree and sense, have corn and wheat, and he who has in his granary the well ripened and carefully harvested products of his farm has the equivalent of coin which he can convert into that or any other product at a moment's need.

And what is as important as any other consideration, agriculture fosters and stimulates a patriotic sentiment in a people. Society about him may be restless, shifting, transitory, and unsettled, tempted by the unhealthy attractions of a wandering life, but to the farmer the soil becomes, as it were, a part of himself, to which he grows attached. There he sets up his household gods, and there he sees a brighter sunshine,

a more beautiful landscape, and hears sweeter music, than anywhere else on earth. And thus he cultivates a devotion for the land he loves, and when the necessity arises, is ready to lay down his life for his country.

This folio of four pages, happy work;
Which not e'en cities criticize; that holds
Inquisitive attention while I read,
Fast bound in chains of silence, which the fair,
Though eloquent themselves, yet fear to break;
What is it but a map of busy life,
Its fluctuations and its vast concerns?
— COWPER.

He comes the herald of a noisy world.
— COWPER.

A journalist is a grubber, a censurer, a giver of advice, a regent of sovereigns, a tutor of nations. Four hostile newspapers are more to be feared than a thousand bayonets. — NAPOLEON I.

PRACTICAL journalists will be able to appreciate the recent description of an editor as one whose occupation compels him to "scorn delights and live laborious days." But to the worker "laborious days" are a sufficient delight. Notwithstanding

its constant demands upon the time, however, the profession of journalism has a singular fascination for many young men. They are able to see its power before they are able to understand the secret of that power. They hear it lauded in the scale of influence above eloquence, above statesmanship, above official patronage, above wealth, even, and they would be one of those privileged to exert that influence. The apparent influence of the press is everywhere. Papers are read with the utmost avidity by all classes, and the knowledge of this adds to the feeling of their controlling influence and increases the fascinations of the profession.

But underlying this undeniable influence of the journalistic profession are

SOME SERIOUS FACTS

which ought to be known and considered by the young man who desires to make journalism his life work. The objection that is made to it, that it leads to nothing higher, should not be regarded. Conscientiously and ably conducted, there is nothing higher. To mould and direct public sentiment in a proper channel ought to be a sufficient ambition for any man. And it would be better for the profession if it led to nothing else, and

if journalists were necessarily shut up to its legitimate duties. They would serve the public better; they would not be tempted to use their great influence to advance their own personal ambitions. The highest talent has been wasted in this way, and the usefulness of the most widely circulated journals seriously impaired. If a man is shut up in his profession, he will excel in it, if he has the ability to do so, to a degree that would be impossible were he to make that profession a mere stepping stone to some other position.

Not only is the life of a journalist one of

CONSTANT LABOR,

but the compensation, as a rule, is not large. Their work and their hours of work are necessarily irregular. At times the work is excessively laborious, and liable to great disappointments which few can understand until they have experienced them. They are constantly surrounded by temptations, and led into associations in the pursuit of their regular business whose contamination is difficult to avoid.

There are occasional appearances of so-called brilliant young journalists, but if the truth were known of them it would probably be seen that

they were making time drafts on their health that would exhaust their stock when they were paid. Exhausted, they resort to stimulants. Anxious to do a brilliant piece of work on some special occasion, they seek the bottle or opiates to supplement their natural powers, and thus often acquire habits which will sap the health of mind and body. They thus burn the candle of life at both ends, and the sequel is easily guessed.

Journalism is a profession where, especially,

NATURAL GIFTS

are desirable. Communications are very frequently received from young men seeking employment, and setting forth the acquirements of the writers. A year ago I had a letter from a young man, an entire stranger, in his junior year at college, stating that he found himself unable to complete his course for want of means, and asking for a newspaper situation. I replied, urging him by all means, at every reasonable sacrifice, to complete his college course before he thought of beginning his life work, and asking him to write again in a year. A few days ago came another letter from him, that he would complete his course at the next college com-

mencement, a month later, that he had acquired shorthand, could operate the type writer, and was more than ever anxious for newspaper work. All this indicates the possession of good qualities and desirable attainments, but tells nothing of natural gifts for the profession. This can only be ascertained by actual trial.

It is hard to define these natural gifts. One may have fine intellectual powers and high culture; he may be able to succeed in politics, commerce, law, or theology, and yet be as much in the way and as useless in an editorial room as the "exchange fiend." The profession makes

UNUSUAL DEMANDS

at times upon the nervous energies, and requires a rapidity of thought and a promptness of decision seldom required in other callings. To meet such emergencies properly, one must have all his resources well in hand, and education can be of little service in the matter, if natural gifts are wanting.

Men have succeeded in journalism without education, excepting such as was gained at the case and in the office. Men have failed who had acquired the highest education. The former would have been better journalists with a finished

education. The latter would have failed anyhow.

This peculiarity of the profession will indicate the difficulty of suggesting any special line of preparation. Excepting a few of the branches usually taught in course, as rhetorical studies, mental and moral philosophy, language and the art of composition, the education should be more of a practical than a technical character. A thorough knowledge of history, especially the political history of our own country and of those countries with which we are in most intimate commercial relations, is very important.

A GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

of the principles of business, with terms used in the various professions, trades, and callings, familiarity with the use of encyclopedias, gazetteers, census reports, and general statistics, are indispensable. The memory should be so trained as to have a general knowledge of leading facts, but the great reliance must be on the record, and it is important to be able to put your finger on the fact at the right moment, for time is valuable in the office of a daily paper.

Much can be learned by a study of the best newspapers, and here I think our young journalists are greatly lacking. Few of the local staffs

know what is going on in the world around them beyond the range of their daily work. They know all about the leading base ball clubs of the country and the peculiarities of the several players, but the Egyptian situation is as unknown to them as the inscriptions on the obelisks. He should also study the newspapers to see how they are made up; study their methods of arrangement, and learn why one is successful and another fails. But he must not confine himself to newspaper reading, as it will not impart culture, nor depth. Neither must he confine himself to the study of

RHETORICAL WORKS,

as they will lead him to write long and dreary essays, which newspaper readers do not want. The modern newspaper style is peculiar to the profession. A recent writer has well said that "it must have the accuracy of the essay combined with the intensity of excited personal conversation." The college reading room will be a better place for the intending journalist than the class room and the regular curriculum, for many reasons.

There are several positions in newspaper work, and their duties are widely different. There are

reporters, assistant editors, news editors, and editor-in-chief. In the larger offices there are specialists, as literary, amusement, and court reporters, though in ordinary establishments one or more of these duties are performed by other members of the staff. It is hardly necessary to refer to the peculiar duties of the editor-in-chief, or managing editor, for the young man who is just entering the profession is probably a long distance from that position, and will have ample time to learn a good deal about it before he reaches it. The

BUSINESS OF A REPORTER

is peculiar. Sometimes he will have the work of two men to do, and again he will have nothing to do. He will find much of the work on which he prides himself remorselessly cut out and reduced in space until he cannot recognize it. When a dozen columns of matter must be put into one or two columns of space, and there is but an hour to do it in, there is no time for sentiment and no room for rhetoric. Under such circumstances, fine writing is the first to suffer, and when the boiling process is complete, there is nothing left but the hard facts. This is especially trying to the faithful and meritorious reporter, and it is

hard for him to submit to the inevitable. He sees many other things in the paper that he feels could have been better spared than his well rounded sentences, but he soon comes to understand the necessities of the case, and plods along, always doing his best, and some day, when there is plenty of room, his fine writing will see the light, and attract attention, and will lead to his promotion.

One of the most trying things about the profession, to the beginner, is its impersonality. The journalist sinks his individuality in the paper. The "I" is lost sight of, and the "we," which means the paper and not its editor, takes its place.

THE YOUNG JOURNALIST

is restive under the caustic criticism of rivals, and generally wants to retort in kind. He is disposed to threaten an enemy, or an opponent, with the censure of the paper. Such subordinates are dangerous, and do not long retain their places.

When a managing editor finds that a reporter is furnishing matter that is not truthful, that his statements are not to be relied on, or that he is using the influence of the paper to promote his

personal ends, he will be very sure to make short work with him.

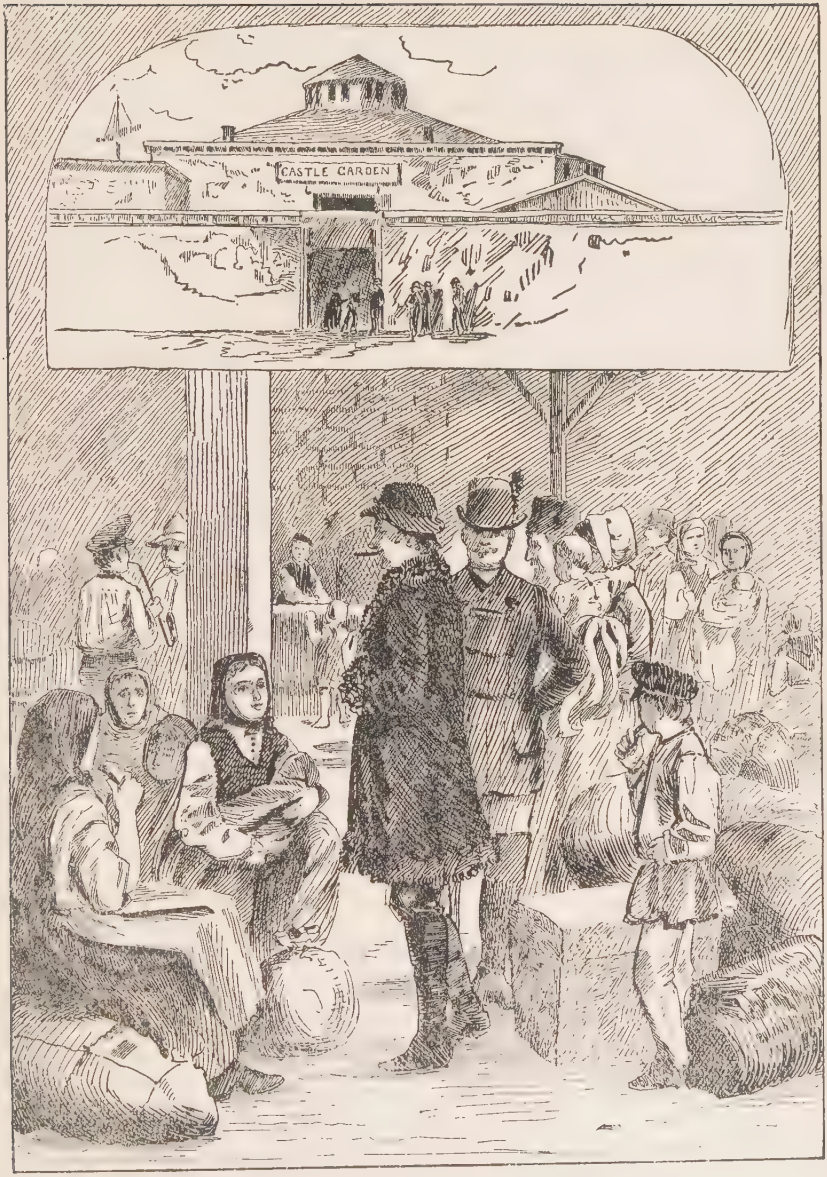
It is in journalism as in all other callings—faithful, conscientious work is sure of its reward. It may be slow in coming; there may be peculiarities in the make up of the staff, or in the character of the paper, to retard legitimate progress, but in any establishment that is properly conducted and well organized faithful and competent workers will get the prizes, if they are patient.

But young men desirous of entering upon

A JOURNALISTIC CAREER

should realize at the outset that it involves a life of hardship, of poorly paid labor, and, in all probability, unless they are gifted with strong power of endurance, impaired health. The labor on a daily morning paper is specially trying, involving as it does night work, irregular meals and sleep, and close confinement until the paper goes to press at three or four o'clock in the morning. Then frequently comes the strong temptation to rise early, if there be any special attraction going on in the forenoon, which results in an exhausting loss of sleep that no constitution can long withstand. It is possible to be

about as regular in one's habits on a morning paper as in any other business, but few young men seem able to acquire that regularity, and until they do they are in danger of breaking down.



A home for the oppressed of all nations.

Foreign Immigration.

Is not the whole happy land before thee?—Bible.

IT is the ordinary boast of Americans, when they would especially praise their country, that it is a home for the oppressed of all nations. Until the passage, a short time ago, of the act of Congress forbidding the immigration of Chinese, we had placed no restriction on foreign immigration, and it has grown to enormous proportions.

It is interesting to trace the difference between immigration to America and that of other nations and times. The pictures left to us from the ancients are of nomadic tribes taking possession

of unoccupied territories, or invading territory already occupied; of conquerors carrying nations into captivity; of wholesale banishment for political or religious causes; of colonies organized in the wake of wars and conquests.

Our immigration, however, has been less indebted to violent forces, excepting incidentally and on rare occasions, for its increase and continuance, but has become so well established from entirely different causes as to proceed spontaneously, so to speak, encouraged by what has gone before, as well as by the ease and facility of

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL.

In ancient times whole peoples and nations moved from one locality to another. Immigration to this country is most striking in that it is the removal of individuals and families to a distant and very different land and climate, without concert of action, without great apparent distress, silently and intelligently, the immigrants knowing very well where and why they go. The first comers were the pioneers and the adventurers, and those who came after awaited the result of the experiment. Those results happening to be satisfactory and encouraging, the steady tide set in, and has continued since. This latter is the

only, or the great, controlling influence which has produced our immigration.

The tide has fluctuated greatly because of other incidental causes impelling or attracting, and again deterring. During the Irish famine of nearly forty years ago, it was wonderfully increased, and the discovery of gold on the Pacific, and the failures of the European revolutions following soon after, tended to keep up that increase. The impetus thus given was the immediate cause of great improvement in the

FACILITIES FOR TRAVEL

and in cheapening the transportation, which also in turn tended to continue the increase. Subsequently industrial motives and inducements were added to the attractions.

The breaking out of our civil war, however, was a sudden and serious check to immigration. The total immigration in 1860 was 150,237, which fell off in 1861 to 89,724, and in 1862 to 89,207, but rose in 1865 to 247,453. The panic of 1873 also proved a check, as the immigration, which was 459,803 in 1873, gradually decreased year by year during the continuance of the hard times, until in 1878 it was but 138,469, and rose rapidly to 457,257 in 1880, to 669,431 in 1881, and to

788,992 in 1882. Immigration is now so large, and has been rendered so safe and easy, that we may confidently look for its continuance and increase. This being the case, the duties of the nation and the States toward so important an element, which necessarily touches our existing laws and customs at so many points, as naturalization, allegiance, military science, and social, religious, international, and race prejudices, are exercising the best thought of our wisest statesmen and philanthropists.

Our country has recognized it as a duty to provide

SHELTER AND GUIDANCE

to immigrants on their arrival on our shores, to protect them from imposition, and insure the liberal fulfilment of all contracts made with them by transportation companies and others. Immigrant ships are visited some hours before landing by health officers, and the sick are removed to hospitals under official supervision. The others are landed at Castle Garden, where is a large rotunda capable of accommodating four thousand persons, where every immediate necessity of the immigrant may be supplied without leaving the depot. Letters may be written, telegrams sent

and received, and friends introduced. Immigrants are there guarded from sharpers who seek to prey upon their ignorance of our customs, and supplied with every species of information as to how they shall proceed in their respective objects. And similar supervision accompanies them over the lines of railway to their destination.

With these exceptions the Government offers no inducements to immigrants save such as are open to all, native and foreign alike, and those which are found in our free country, teeming soil, and

LIBERAL INSTITUTIONS.

The lands are cheap, and may almost be had for the asking, under our homestead, pre-emption, and timber culture laws. [See the chapter "Advantages in the West."]

The immigration question offers some difficulties which may become still more serious in the future as the years advance and the tide continues to increase. The Mormon problem is an illustration. There is a people not only at variance with the whole genius of our system on an important social question, but they are at the same time at open war with the Government on a question of jurisdiction and sovereignty. Chinese

or other heathen people may colonize in large numbers and become dangerous to the welfare of society, and claim protection for, and tolerance of, heathen customs and practices under the pretext of conscientious religious belief, to which they would be equally entitled with the Mormons.

Again, our labor organizations may conclude one of these days that it is necessary to combine and secure some measures to prevent the heavy annual influx of cheap European labor, which comes in immediate and direct

COMPETITION WITH NATIVE LABOR.

Such importation of labor, it is claimed, has been made on more than one occasion of late years, when strikes were in progress, the newly arrived immigrant laborers taking the places vacated by the strikers. This, however, is not the place for the discussion of these questions, and they are only mentioned as showing the difficult questions which are looming up in the future, and which may change the entire policy of our Government in the matter of foreign immigration.

No statistics of foreign immigration were kept until 1820, but it has been estimated that between 1789 and 1820 the whole number of foreigners coming to the United States was 250,000. As-

suming that estimate to be correct, the total immigration from 1789 to the close of 1882 was 11,058,189. The census of 1880 shows that there were in the United States at the time that census was taken 6,679,943 persons of foreign birth, and 43,475,840 native born, or a little more than one foreigner for every six natives. There were also, at that time, 14,955,996 persons in the country, one or both of whose parents were foreign born. The last stated figures include the entire foreign element, so that we have one person of foreign birth, or but one remove therefrom, for each two and one-half of our native population.

THIS LARGE FOREIGN ELEMENT

has become so thoroughly incorporated into our population that it has practically lost its distinguishing characteristics, so far as any great influence on our political methods is concerned, which has proven visionary the predictions which have been made from time to time in our history, that our institutions were in danger from the foreign element. It also shows that this immigration has been attracted to our shores by an intelligent appreciation and admiration of our system of government, and that those so coming have striven to adapt themselves to our customs

and methods, and have, as far as possible, sought to discard their foreign habits, which had contributed to render the countries from which they came less desirable places of residence.

Foreign immigrants, being largely from European cities, prefer to locate in cities here, and it is true of New York that it contains more Irish than are in the city of Dublin. But they also go out into the country, and into the far West, along the lines of our newly constructed railways, where they are bringing the soil of those new State under cultivation, and contributing their proper share of the labor and sacrifice necessary to

BUILD UP EMPIRES

in those territories so recently reclaimed from barbarism.

As a rule, these foreigners have, when occasion required it, vindicated their right to live among us. They have been useful and patriotic citizens, in peace and war, sincerely attached to our form of government, and have contributed largely to the wealth, progress, and prosperity of the country. And if there be among them certain classes whose theories are a menace to our institutions, they are fortunately in a small mi-

nority, and no element of our population more sincerely abhors those dangerous theories and is willing to do more to contest them than the large and better element of the foreigners themselves.

The large influx of foreigners should be a continual reminder to those young men and old who are wont to repine at the hardships off this country, where nothing is made without hard work, that other countries are much worse off in this respect. These immigrants came from every land under the sun, and represent every occupation in those lands. They have left their homes their friends, their native land. They have

BROKEN LIFE LONG TIES

of the tenderest kind and risked the dangers and uncertainties of the change. They certainly would not have done so had it not been that they were leaving lands where the hardships were greater and the opportunities less than here. In the lands they left, the poor laboring man is seldom able to acquire a home of his own, and to gain a competence for his declining years is a something beyond his wildest dreams. Let him work never so hard, he can, as a rule, get no more than a bare subsistence. To become the owner of the land he tills is beyond his highest

ambition. Here everything in the way of worldly success and honors is possible to him. Then let the growler learn a lesson from the brave and sturdy immigrant, imitate his industry and thrift, and be prosperous and happy.

WHERE TO SUCCEED.

ONE of the most frequent inquiries by young men who are ready to launch their bark upon the sea of business is as to where they shall begin, and the inquiry is one of the most difficult to answer satisfactorily. In a general way, it is true that a young man who is well equipped in every way for his life work can succeed anywhere, and yet if all his peculiarities were known, it might be possible to suggest a location to him where his success would be comparatively rapid and easy. In the absence of any specific knowledge of such tastes and peculiarities, therefore, it is only possible to

treat the subject of this chapter in the most general and discursive manner.

I have travelled more or less in all the States and Territories of the Union, with but two or three exceptions, and have seen a good deal of the manners of life and methods of business in each. There is a wide difference in the States, and even in different parts of the same State, in people and customs. The people of the North and South, as a rule, differ almost as much in their modes of life and business as if an ocean divided them and different flags covered them. Of course this is largely due to the presence of slavery in the South, which was so at variance with all Northern ideas, and created a condition of things so foreign to our ideas of prosperity that Northern people are not apt to feel at

HOME IN THE SOUTH.

These conditions are changing, slowly but surely, as the peculiarities of slavery, and its evil influences are being forgotten. The rapid building of railway lines, of factories and furnaces, and the intercommunication with the more progressive and energetic people of the North are rapidly changing the character of the Southern society, and making that section more desirable as a

place for business enterprise. Young men may readily find localities in many of the late slave States where there are good openings for almost any kind of business, if they can school themselves to endure and ignore the peculiarities referred to, trusting to time and education to gradually eradicate them.

The Southern people are not slow to recognize merit, provided always it does not run counter to their preconceived notions. In a country where the great bulk of the labor was that of slaves for so many years, the so-called ruling classes are slow to recognize the

DIGNITY OF LABOR,

and are still apt to look upon any one who works with his hands as of an inferior rank in life. This is the result of education, and must be tolerated and humored until it yields to the apparent advantages of a different system.

In any of the Southern States lands are much cheaper than in the older States at the North. The large plantations so common during the existence of slavery are being subdivided and sold, and good farms may be found in comparatively good locations at prices which, to a farmer from the Middle North States, seem very reason-

able. These lands are, or may be made very productive by skilful handling, and there is no trouble in finding convenient markets for all the product. Cotton and sugar are no longer the only products of the South, but general farming is becoming more common every year.

Tennessee, by reason of its admirable climate and central location with respect to the markets of the North and South, is looked upon as a favorable location, and will no doubt be rapidly settled up. Further east

ADMIRABLE LOCATIONS

may be found on the Eastern shores of Maryland and Virginia, where the climate is unsurpassed, and the soil, though much worn by careless tillage, is susceptible of great improvement. The fruit farming of those localities is being wonderfully developed, and has proved very profitable where it has been intelligently prosecuted. The lands of Maryland and Virginia abutting on the tide waters of their bays and rivers offer some of the most desirable and charming homes to be found in the country, while, for the reasons stated above, the lands are very reasonable in price. Those sections are destined, before many years, to be largely enhanced in value, and to

prove among the most productive in the country.

It is a common expression that if you want to make money, you must go where the money is. But this is not as true to-day as it was thirty years ago. Then there were few railroads; the transportation of produce and manufactures was so expensive as to be practically prohibitory. A farmer saw but little money, being compelled to take "trade," as it was called, at the nearest village store for his produce, receiving the lowest price for the latter, and paying the highest price for the former. But railroads and cheap transportation have changed all that. A

GOOD CASH MARKET

may be found now at every railway station, or a man may ship his cattle, sheep, and hogs, or his wheat and corn, to more distant markets, where the best price in cash is certain. The mechanic may send his wares from one end of the country to the other, wherever the demand is greatest, and he receives his pay promptly when it is due.

Railroads have so penetrated every portion of the country, and the competition between them is so great that no legitimate product need wait long for a purchaser. Whereas, before the construction of railroads, wheat must be sold within

twenty-five miles of the place of its growth, as it would not bear transportation by wagon to a greater distance, now wheat grown in Kansas and Dacota finds a market in New York and Liverpool at prices which return a profit to the producer.

These facts are given to show that all localities are much alike in the chances they afford for success to the enterprising man. One young man sets his face toward the West, and settling on a farm in Nebraska or Montana, gradually works his way to a comfortable position. His stay-at-home brother

MAY HAVE WAITED

until he could make the first payment on an adjoining farm, where the same habits of industry and thrift which have won success on the far Western farm have also won for him a similar success.

Another has gone to the city, where, applying his home acquired habits of energy, and bringing his power of endurance to bear, he has won distinction as a lawyer or a doctor. There are thousands of cases where families are thus scattered over the country in occupations of the most diverse character, and where all have succeeded.

And the reverse is true. Under apparently similar circumstances all have failed.

A pretty careful study of the subject in the light of experience will convince almost any one that it is not so much where as how that determines success or failure. It matters little how favorable may be the surroundings and how encouraging the outlook if the young man lacks the proper equipment of energy, skill, and integrity. On the other hand, men have won success under the most unfavorable circumstances imaginable, and have even made their misfortunes to work out their success.

Too much stress should not be laid upon

CHEAP LOCATIONS.

Land is generally worth what it will bring, and may be cheap at one hundred dollars an acre, and dear at nothing. It is not advisable to buy a farm or a business only because it is cheap. There must be other inducements, or it would better be let alone. One may rent a business room in a city for twenty-five dollars a month for which in another city or in another location he would be required to pay one hundred dollars, yet the latter may be cheap and the former dear. You may employ a clerk or a salesman at ten dollars

a week, and another at forty, and the latter may be much the most profitable.

Never buy an article, or a farm, merely because it is cheap. Exercise your judgment. The land may be susceptible of improvement; may have been injured and run down by bad treatment or abuse, and be easily restored. In that case it will be a good investment, if you have the tact and the talent to restore it. So with your choice of a place to try your life work. Let it have something more to recommend it than cheapness.

NEITHER SHOULD ONE

rent a doctor's shop in a village simply because there is no doctor there already. That may be a good reason, but it may not be. Perhaps there is never any sickness there, in which case the ambitious young doctor would be poorly off. Perhaps there is a doctor in the next village who has all the practice, and who cannot be driven out. These things must be ascertained before it is too late. It requires judgment to make the selection, and a judgment, too, that is formed with a knowledge of all the facts, else the chances are that a serious blunder will be made, which may color one's whole future.

It is to be feared that our young men do not fully appreciate the value of a good name, in choosing a location. But it is a young man's most precious investment. He may not realize it for many years, and may never fully understand its value, but it is, nevertheless, quietly at work, helping him on in his career, working for him when and where he knows little of, but working surely and efficiently. If trouble overtakes him and he needs friends, he will be surprised to find how many he has, and in what quarters they will be found. Men with whom he had the very slightest acquaintance come forward with

SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT.

But the cause is as plain as the daylight. In all the years of his boyhood and early struggles he has gone in and out before the community, his every action has been observed and set down to his credit or discredit, as it deserved, and long before he has reached manhood his reputation has been established in his own city, village, or community, whether he is aware of it or not.

If he decides to settle down in business in the community where he has been reared, such a reputation will serve him well, and will be the

most productive part of his capital. Every man in the neighborhood trusts him, believes what he says, relies on his integrity, and is glad to employ him or deal with him. His weights and measures are always correct, his guaranty is always reliable, his word is as good as his bond.

If he moves to a distant community, he takes his character with him but not his reputation. He knows very well what he has in him, what he can do, what he deserves, but his new neighbors do not. He comes as a stranger, and may start in business next door to another new comer, who is the

GREATEST SCAMP

in all business matters, but the community treats them both alike until experience shall have taught them the difference. His reputation has been left behind him in the old home community, and he must make another for himself in his new location. This requires more or less time, and is contingent on a number of circumstances. He may be slow about making acquaintances; reticent about himself and his antecedents; his new neighbors may have been recently defrauded by some plausible stranger, and for that reason feel hostile to all new comers. But under the

most favorable circumstances, time is required before he can reach that point in the confidence of his new neighbors at which he could have started in his old home.

For this reason it is best, all other things being equal, or nearly equal, to enter upon one's life work in the home of one's youth, if one can do so with the real respect and confidence of his neighbors.

On the other hand, if a young man has lost caste in his own neighborhood by reason of some of his youthful pranks, or of some real

DERELICTION OF DUTY,

or departure from the proper course of action, he can avoid its effects by seeking a new location, where he can make a new reputation, and start in life without being handicapped by doubts as to his integrity and virtue.

This subject has been treated only in the most general way. It can be discussed in no other way. It involves questions which no man can settle for another, but which each must settle for himself. At the best it includes great risks which each one must incur for himself. If a location is chosen and one does not prove successful, it must not, therefore, be concluded that it is

entirely because of something in the location. It may be in the young man himself. All these things must be considered, and action must be based on the unbiassed judgment formed only after a full consideration of all the variety of questions and interests involved.

If the young man has the elements of success in him, he will succeed. If he has the sterling character which he ought to have, he will have no trouble to establish a desirable reputation. If he does his whole duty wherever he is placed, he will then have the presence of an approving conscience, which is about the most agreeable companion a man can have with him on his life journey.

Advantages in the West.

Westward the course of empire takes its way;
The four first acts already past,
The fifth shall close the drama with the day;
Time's noblest offspring is the last.

—Bishop Berkeley.

THE choice of an occupation is an embarassing one, but the choice of a location, as we have just seen, is no less so. One of the most frequent inquiries that one who has travelled much in the Western part of the country meets is, "What do you think of the West for a young man?" And it is a question difficult to answer in a few words, so I shall use a good many words in which to do so. Where is the West? It has been receding

gradually, but rapidly, toward the setting sun, until it has now almost disappeared. Chicago people no longer consider themselves Western, but rather as occupying a central position towards the rest of the country. Travel to the Mississippi at St. Paul, or Burlington, or St. Louis, and they talk of going West. Push on to the Missouri at Omaha, at Bismarck, at Kansas City, and they speak of towns and cities farther West. Travel to the Yellowstone, the Colorado, and the Rio Grande, and the locomotive headed West invites you to push on. The Sacramento, the Columbia, and the Williamette are reached, and the placid waters of the Western sea admonish the restless adventurer that

THE LIMIT IS REACHED,

yet his love of change, his desire for new fields to conquer still remains, and he turns his face towards the East once more to seek in out of the way spots some foothold where the hardy pioneer has not yet staked his claim and set up his home.

There are many places yet remaining where public lands can be procured under our homestead and pre-emption laws, which have proved such a boon to the ambitious young farmer, and to the thrifty and industrious immigrant. It is

not my purpose, however, in this place to furnish any specific detail of locations. Such information can be obtained by addressing the proper land office, or the General Land Office at Washington. It is more the general question of locating in the West, and its advantages and disadvantages, that I propose to point out here.

To a young man determined to win in the battle of life, success may be attained any place where men can live and work. Whether it be on the farm, in the workshop, behind the counter, or in a profession, I believe that the same amount of self-denial, economy, and persistent energy necessary to success in the West will secure it in the older States. In the West, it is true, competition is not so sharp, but neither are the

SOURCES OF WEALTH

so general. A young man may be the first and only doctor or lawyer in a frontier town in Dakota, and have everything his own way, yet having everything, he may not have as much as he would have if he obtained merely his fair share of patronage in an older town. As the town increases in size others come in to contest with him for the prizes in his profession, and he soon finds himself confronted by as sharp a com-

petition as that which he left behind him in the East.

If he would try farming, the wide prairies are before him where to choose his homestead, and land is almost as free as the air. Or, if he prefers to locate on lands which he deems more eligible, near a railroad, he can purchase on a credit of ten years' time, at less than ten dollars an acre. Land so readily obtained encourages the hope that wealth must certainly follow, judging from the results he has witnessed in the old homestead. But the long years that intervene while he is

BUILDING UP HIS HOME,

the low prices obtained for his produce while he awaits the growth of a home market, the rigid economy necessary to be practiced, all tend to work discouragement, if he shall have started out with the theory that the West is the royal road to fortune.

Although a man may get a farm of one hundred and sixty acres by merely moving on to the land and making certain improvements, his wealth, if his location is in a remote and unsettled region, is in the distant future, and the road to it is a long and rough one. Mr. Greeley's

Westward the course of empire takes its way.
—*Berkeley.*

advice, to "go West, and grow up with the country," was very good advice, only it must be borne in mind that the country will not grow without help, and a good deal of help. The government gives the land, but it does not fence it, nor build the house and barn, nor the school house and church. Neither does it break the sod, nor make the roads, nor give immunity from the taxation needed to build the county buildings and start the new government. All these must be done by the settlers before the new home is nearly so pleasant as the old one. These are some of the drawbacks to

LIFE IN THE FAR WEST,

which it will be well to realize at the outset. Then, also, the scarcity of neighbors, the distance to a village, to church, to the repair shops when the machinery breaks, to the doctor when any of the family are sick, and a hundred other things which in the older States are ready to one's hand, will be sadly missed, and will often cause a pang of regret at their absence or inconvenience.

But, notwithstanding all these drawbacks, there are advantages which go very far to counterbalance them. It requires a large stock of patient industry to succeed in an entirely new

country, but, for that matter, it requires a good deal of that article everywhere. In the West the young man without means can begin on a farm of his own, and out of debt, which is a wonderful encouragement, and adds greatly to his feeling of independence.

The great land grant railways which have reached out into the Western Territories offer probably the best locations at this time available. It is possible now to reach almost all the vacant lands open to settlers, or within a few miles of them, by railroad. The government, in making those land grants, reserved each alternate section, which was placed in market at double the minimum price, or $2.50 an acre.

A HOMESTEAD CLAIM,

which is for one hundred and sixty acres at the minimum price of $1.25 an acre, therefore cover but eighty acres of the land embraced within railroad grant limits, which are from twenty to forty miles on each side of the road. The theory of this arrangement was that the construction of a railroad through the land doubled its value immediately.

The public lands of the United States remaining unsold lie in nineteen States and eight

Territories. In each of those land offices are established, in charge of an officer known as the Register of the Land Office, where the records of all surveyed lands are kept, and all applications concerning lands in each district are filed, and inquiries answered. The public lands are divided into two classes. One class have one dollar and twenty-five cents designated as the minimum price, and the other class double that price, or two dollars and a half an acre, the latter being the alternate sections in the railroad limits as heretofore explained. Titles to these

LANDS MAY BE ACQUIRED

by private entry or under the homestead, pre-emption, and timber culture laws, or, as to some classes, by purchase for cash, in the case of lands which may be purchased at private sale, or such as have not been reserved under any law. Such tracts are sold on application to the Register of the district, who issues a certificate of purchase, the Receiver of Public Moneys for the same district giving a receipt for the money paid, subject to the issue of a patent, or complete title, if the proceedings are found to be regular, by the Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington.

Land warrants which have been given very extensively in past years for military service, have been nearly or quite all located, and cannot be used as formerly in securing lands. Under the pre-emption law the entries are restricted to the heads of families, or citizens over twenty-one years, who may settle on any quarter section, or one hundred and sixty acres, and have the right of prior claim to purchase, on complying with certain regulations. The

HOMESTEAD LAWS

give the right to one hundred and sixty acres of minimum price ($1.25) land, or eighty acres of double minimum price ($2.50), to any citizen, or applicant for citizenship, over twenty-one years of age, who will actually settle upon and cultivate the land. This privilege extends only to the surveyed lands, and the title is perfected by the issue of a patent after five years of actual residence thereon. The only charges in the case of homestead entries are fees and commissions, varying from seven dollars to thirty-four dollars, according to the size of the tract entered, its value, and the place of record.

Another large class of free entries of public lands is that provided for under the timber

culture laws. The purpose of these laws is to encourage and promote the growth of forest trees on the public lands. They give the right to any settler who has cultivated for two years as much as five acres in trees to an eighty-acre homestead, or, if he has cultivated ten acres, to a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, and a free patent is given him for his land at the end of three years. The limitation of the homestead to one hundred and sixty acres for each settler is extended in the case of timber culture so as to grant as many quarter sections as have been improved by the culture for ten years of forty acres of timber thereon, but the quarter sections must not be contiguous. The fees and commissions for

TIMBER CULTURE ENTRIES

vary from thirteen dollars to eighteen dollars for each tract. The privileges of entry as above extend also to women who may be the heads of families or twenty-one years of age.

Lands acquired under the homestead act are not liable for any debts of the settler contracted prior to the issuing of the patent for his homestead.

No individual is permitted to acquire more than one hundred and sixty acres under the

homestead act, but there is no limit to the quantity which may be purchased by individuals. The five-years' residence required of all other settlers under the homestead law is waived in favor of all soldiers and sailors who served ninety days or longer in the army or navy during the war of the rebellion, and were honorably discharged. Every such soldier or sailor, or his widow or children, in case of his decease, is entitled to free entry of one hundred and sixty acres of the public lands on condition of actual residence and cultivation of the same for one year only.

For information as to what portion of the

PUBLIC DOMAIN YET REMAINS

unappropriated, application should be made by letter to the Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington.

The following is a list of the largest public land States, and the most desirable for settlement, with the location of the land offices in each:

California—San Francisco, Marysville, Humbolt, Stockton, Visalia, Sacramento, Los Angeles, Shasta, Susanville, and Bodie.

Colorado — Denver, Leadville, Central City, Pueblo, Del Norte, and Lake City.

Dakota Territory — Mitchell, Watertown, Fargo, Yankton, Bismarck, Deadwood, and Grand Forks.

Idaho Territory — Boise City, Lewiston, and Oxford.

Kansas — Topeka, Salina, Independence, Wichita, Kirkwin, Concordia, Larned, and Wa Keeny.

Minnesota — Taylor's Falls, St. Cloud, Duluth, Fergus Falls, Worthington, Crookston, Benson, Tracy, and Redwood Falls.

Montana Territory — Helena, Bozeman, and Miles City.

Nebraska — Norfolk, Beatrice, Lincoln, Niobrara, Grand Island, North Platte, and Bloomington.

New Mexico Territory — Santa Fe, and La Mesilla.

Oregon — Oregon City, Roseburg, Le Grande, Lake View, and Ft. Dallas.

Washington Territory — Olympia, Vancouver, Walla Walla, Colfax, and Yakima.

Wisconsin — Menasha, Falls of St. Croix, Wausau, La Crosse, Bayfield, and Eau Claire.

Wyoming Territory — Cheyenne and Evanston.

But agriculture is by no means the only industry in the West, nor is it the most immediately profitable. In some of the Territories are rich deposits of the precious metals, which sometimes prove very remunerative. Cattle raising is also largely engaged in, and is probably the most certain way to wealth, though it requires considerable capital to make a beginning. With a good location I know of no business which, for years to come, offers so certain and so large a profit for the same amount of risk and labor as the raising of cattle as it is conducted in Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, and some of the

OTHER WESTERN TERRITORIES.

I have said nothing of Texas in the above list of land offices, for the reason that Texas owns her own lands, and the United States government has nothing whatever to do with them. There are rich lands in abundance in that State, and many excellent places for location for stock raising, cotton culture, or general farming. Lands are cheaper than the government lands elsewhere, and some inducements are offered to settlers. The climate is excellent, the soil generally very productive, and the products are of all kinds that can be raised elsewhere in the United States,

including the cotton and sugar of the South, and the wheat and corn of the North.

What has been said may at least be sufficient to enable the intending emigrant to the West to make more thorough examinations of the several localities, and choose for himself that one which is best suited to his taste and ambition. It is not possible in the space of one brief chapter to enter into full details.

It is by the benefit of letters that absent friends are in a manner brought together. — SENECA.

They are those winged messengers that can fly
From the Antarctic to the Arctic sky;
The heralds and swift harbingers that move
From East to West on embassies of love.

— HOWELL.

WERE you ever privileged to delve among old letters, yellow from time, whose writers had long since passed over into the land of the leal? If you have, you cannot fail to have noticed the marked difference between such letters and those of the present time. Then the world moved

slower than it does to-day. Locomotives and telegraphs and telephones were unknown; fast mails were carried by stagecoach, and daily papers were few and far between. A trip to Europe was a question of a month or six weeks at sea, and a visit to New York meant a fortnight of tedious travel. But the locomotive has wrought a revolution in travel as the telegraph has in our methods of correspondence. The telegram has no room for sentiment, where every word costs money, and the brevity thus enforced on economical grounds has gradually become the characteristic of all

OUR LETTER WRITING.

People are too busy to write or read lengthy epistles, and the art of producing them, being no longer considered a necessary accomplishment, has fallen into disuse, and become one of the lost arts.

This is greatly to be deplored, for nothing gives us so clear an idea of the gifts and graces of our ancestors as do those faded letters which have come to us as a relic out of the past. In these men and women reflected their feelings and characters as in a mirror; the little incidents of everyday life were detailed with such charms of

humor and pathos, such simple eloquence, as give us the best insight into the daily life of a generation that is gone. But we still have enough letter writing to do in the course of our ordinary business transactions and social intercourse to render it obligatory on us to be careful and methodical in the conduct of such correspondence. A few plain and simple rules for the preparation of letters, if practised and observed, will very soon enable any one of ordinary intelligence to become an expert, graceful, and welcome correspondent.

One of the first and most important of the

RULES ON THE SUBJECT

is promptness. In business matters and between business men no letter should be allowed to remain unanswered longer than is necessary to obtain the information needed to frame a reply. Self-interest will dictate promptness in all matters strictly pertaining to one's own business, but there are hundreds of letters of inquiry received by business men daily of no possible interest to the receiver, but of great interest to the writer. There is a reciprocity among business men, and among gentlemen, which will prompt courteous replies, as no one knows how soon he

may wish to address such inquiries for himself.

Letters are of different kinds, each of which is very different in its general features from all others. There are business letters, social letters, letters of introduction, letters of inquiry, letters furnishing information, etc., etc. To give a detailed description of the rules properly applicable to all these would require more space than can properly be devoted to the subject here, but some general rules may be valuable by way of information and suggestion. In business letters

BREVITY IS IMPORTANT,

but it should never be observed at the expense of explicitness of statement and necessary detail. They should give full information of the business in hand without ambiguity or superfluous words. Unnecessary words in a business letter are a waste of time to both writer and reader, besides being very apt to obscure the meaning of the writer, leading to confusion in the details of business transactions.

Probably the best way to impart information in regard to the subject in hand is through models of letters of the different kinds that a man of business is called upon to write, prefacing them with the single remark that an indispen-

sable prerequisite in all such matters is a thorough knowledge of the subject before beginning to write.

Another important matter is to keep copies of all letters written of a business character, and so arranged that a letter of any date may be found at a moment's need. The same order and system should apply to letters received, invoices, bills, receipts, etc. In this way alone all papers referring to business transactions of the current year can be found without delay. At the

CLOSE OF THE YEAR

the volume of letters sent should be accurately dated, and placed in their proper order on the shelves, and the letters, etc., received should be placed in a box, or other suitable receptacle, endorsed with the year in which they were received, and so arranged that any paper can be found immediately. This system is absolutely necessary in the transaction of an extensive business, as otherwise the vast accumulation of papers would so confuse one that it would be impossible to find what was needed without a loss of valuable time, and oftentimes a serious loss in business. The following forms are merely suggestive, and may be varied to suit the different

circumstances that arise. The models will serve to indicate the general construction of such letters.

A LETTER OF CREDIT.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, June 10, 1884.

Messrs. John Thomas & Co.,

Philadelphia, Pa.:

GENTLEMEN — Please allow Mr. James Williams a credit for such selections as he may make, to an amount not exceeding five hundred dollars ($500), for ninety days. We will become responsible to you for the payment of the same should Mr. Williams neglect to do so at the proper time.

Be kind enough to inform us of the amount for which you give him credit, with the date it becomes due; also, in default of payment, forward notice immediately.

Very truly yours,

[Mr. Williams's signature] JAMES WILSON & CO.

JAMES WILLIAMS.

The signature of the person to whom the credit is given should be affixed to the lower left-hand corner of the letter of credit so that he may be identified as the person named in the letter. It will be observed that the essential points in a letter of credit are the amount to be advanced, the name of the person to whom granted, the receipt or voucher to be taken, and the manner of its reimbursement.

ANOTHER LETTER OF CREDIT.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, June 1, 1883.

Messrs. Thomas Sloan & Co.,

San Francisco, Cal.:

GENTLEMEN — Allow me to introduce to you the bearer, Mr. Isaac Allworthy, of the firm of Allworthy Brothers & Co., of this city. He is visiting California for the purpose of making some purchases, and although not expecting to be in want of funds, should such a necessity arise, we will thank you to accommodate him on our account to the extent of three thousand or four thousand dollars ($3,000 or $4,000), drawing upon us at sight for your advances. Mr. Allworthy's signature appears below.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS SCOTT & CO.

[Mr Allworthy's signature]

ISAAC ALLWORTHY.

APPLICATION FOR A CLERKSHIP.

WESTERVILLE, OHIO, June 15, 1884.

Messrs. Jones & Dixon,

Columbus, O.:

GENTLEMEN — Hearing through a friend (Mr. Thomas Langford) of the vacancy of the position of shipping clerk in your house, I take the liberty of making application for the same. My mercantile experience is limited, but I am not altogether unacquainted with business customs, having frequently assisted in the store of my father at this place. I am seventeen years of age, and have a married sister in your city (Mrs. O. W. Evans, No. 210 Western Avenue), with whom I would make my home.

I refer you, by their permission, to Mr. E. R. Hill, and Wallace Henry, Esq., of your city, for information as to my character.

Very respectfully,

HENRY JACKSON.

FOR AN ADVANCE OF SALARY.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, May 1, 1880.

Messrs. Chatfield & Woods:

GENTLEMEN — Asking pardon for thus trespassing on your valuable time, allow me to invite your attention to a subject which is to me of very urgent necessity, that is, the question of an increase of salary. I have been in your service nearly two years, during which time you have, no doubt, decided on my ability and disposition to do the work required of me; and in calling your attention to this matter I do so in the belief that it has escaped your notice because of the many other things which demand your attention. It has been my constant study and endeavor to perform with fidelity the duties that have been entrusted to me, and if I may venture to hope for encouragement from you, believe me ever ready and willing to respond to all demands your interests may require.

I am very truly yours,

ALFRED THOMAS.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, March 4, 1883.

Messrs. A. B. Cowes & Co.,

Milwaukee, Wis.:

GENTLEMEN — Mr. Eugene Sullivan, who has been in the employ of our house for the past three years, during which time he has faithfully and satisfactorily attended to his duties, is now leaving us. He is a good penman, an accurate accountant, and familiar with correspondence. We shall always be willing to respond to any applications we may have regarding his character and abilities, and wish him great success.

Very truly yours,

THOS. THOMPSON & CO.

ANSWERING AN ADVERTISEMENT.

540 High St., Columbus, Ohio, June 1, 1884.

"A. B. C.," State Journal:

Sir—I offer myself as an applicant for the position advertised in to-day's *State Journal*, and beg to refer you to my present employers, Messrs. Hall, Brown & Co., with whom I am now engaged as shipping clerk.

Respectfully,

ALBERT W. WRIGHT.

ORDERING GOODS.

Delaware, Ohio, April 10, 1879.

Messrs. A. T. Stewart & Co.,

New York:

Gentlemen—I am favored by your communication of the 7th inst. enclosing price lists. It is not convenient for me to visit New York at present for the selection of my stock, and I believe it to be unnecessary, as I am entirely willing to leave the selection to you. I enclose an order to which you will please give your earliest attention and forward with the least possible delay, according to shipping directions attached. Send only choice goods, and draw at pleasure, allowing cash discounts. I refer you to Lord & Taylor and Harper & Brothers of your city.

Yours truly,

A. B. MONCHAU.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATION.

Columbus, Ohio, February 1, 1879.

To whom it may concern:

The bearer, Mr. Walter Denman, is personally well known to me as a young man of sterling worth. He graduated at our

State University, where he was distinguished as a student for his diligence, integrity, and proficiency in his studies. Socially he is a member of one of our best families, and being possessed of an unblemished character he is greatly esteemed. I cheerfully recommend him to good people anywhere, and especially to those to whom he may offer his service.

Very respectfully,

A. S. RIDGWAY.

Domestic, friendly, and personal letters are of such an infinite variety that any prescribed form would be little short of mockery. To receive a letter from a friend in regard to personal and domestic matters, and to recognize it as having been modelled after a letter similar to some of those found in some of our publications, would be very apt to deprive it of much of its interest. If one has acquired a fair degree of facility with his pen and in the art of composition, he may be safely trusted to express himself to a friend, without model or other instruction.

Some of the publications referred to go so far as to prescribe forms for love letters and offers of marriage, as if young men should be taught how they ought to feel in regard to such sacred and confidential matters. All such matters can be safely left to the writers, and the eye of a friend will not scan too critically the lines which

convey the declaration of the tender passion, even though couched in homely phrase. If you were in the presence of the loved one, you would not read your vows of affection from a book, but would trust to the natural feelings, and it would be equally inappropriate to use the forms of speech of another while conveying your sentiments by letter.

GENERAL PRACTICE

in the art of composition, and a carefully selected course of reading, will very soon enable a young man to express himself with ease and grace upon any desired subject, and is a better reliance in all matters of social, domestic, and friendly correspondence than the most elaborate rules and instructions.

In all such correspondence let the heart speak, and there is little danger of going far astray. Frequent correspondence between friends and relatives tends to strengthen and gild the ties that bind them to one another. Let not the bustle of business drown the voice of filial love, but allow your thoughts to wander back frequently to the dear old home where loving parents think of you constantly and pray for your welfare and happiness, and who have

nothing to distract their minds from the beloved children who are out in the world struggling with its cares and temptations, and forming new ties that may take the place of the old. Let them hear from you often, and you will spare them many a sharp pang at the thought that they are neglected by their child. Tidings from you will light up the lonely household whence the music and the radiance of childhood have departed, and their hearts will be warmed by the assurance of your continued love, while your heart will be kept green by the faithful discharge of such a filial duty.

How to Secure a Government Position.

THE United States has a population of about fifty-five millions. Of these one hundred thousand are officers or employes of the civil service of the government. One in each five hundred and fifty of our population, therefore, holds a government position of more or less desirable character. To the securing of these positions probably not less than one million of the population look forward with the utmost confidence. They are looked upon as the spoils of the victorious party, and custom has made them such for the past fifty years. They have been used to reward real or

imaginary party service, and have been parcelled out upon that theory. Fitness has generally been a secondary consideration in making selections for office, party applications and party service being the controlling influences.

In carrying out this policy members of Congress have generally been the principal medium through which the so-called party patronage has been dispensed. Thus were those officials enabled to reward their own personal henchmen, while at the same time encouraging general party devotion. Congressmen were generally looked to for nominations for all offices

LOCATED IN THEIR DISTRICT,

as Postmaster, revenue officers, land officers, etc. The method has been in operation so long that members have come to look upon it in the nature of a vested right, as much their own as the legitimate salary of their office. Besides the local offices pertaining to his district, each Congressman has come to feel that he is entitled to a share of the department clerkships at Washington, and to the diplomatic positions abroad. So general has this idea come to prevail that a government clerk, consul, or other official, is better known as the appointee of a certain

member of Congress than because of any merit of his own which he may possess for the discharge of his duties. For this reason it frequently happens that a change of Congressman means a change of all the officials and clerks who were indebted for their positions to the retiring member. Each new member, on assuming his office, finds himself with a large number of political debts to pay, and with a larger number of clamorous office seekers to whom he may or may not be indebted. And when the average American citizen makes up his mind that he wants an office, he is very apt to

DEMONSTRATE THE FACT

that he wants it very badly, and to impress upon all his neighbors, and especially his member of Congress, that his appointment is a grave question of state, as well as a matter involving the future success of the party in power. With such a propelling power behind him, it is not to be wondered at that the member becomes equally aggressive, and does not hesitate to exercise his power as a member to compel a compliance with his demands.

"I want a clerkship for this young friend of mine," said a distinguished United States Senator

to the head of one of the departments in Washington.

"But, Mr. Senator," was the reply, "there are no vacancies."

"Then make a vacancy," thundered the excited Senator, whose re-election was pending, and the vote of a member of the Legislature, whose son was the youthful applicant, trembled in the balance.

Under such a condition of things, is it at all to be wondered at that serious quarrels have not infrequently arisen between members of Congress and the administration over the question of appointments? If the public could be enlightened as to the real cause of many of

THE POLITICAL QUARRELS

and bitter expressions made about the appointing power by members of their own party, it would not increase its respect for the dignity of our law makers, though it might increase their sympathy for the President and his Cabinet officers.

Under such circumstances, government positions are necessarily very insecure. It is a common expression in Washington that a clerk is never certain he has his place until he gets his first month's pay. The fact is, he is never certain

of holding it from one month to another. It is dependent on so many contingencies. A new Congressman may come who wants the place for another one of his constituents; he may incur the displeasure of the head of his division, the chief clerk of his bureau, or some other superior officer: a vacancy may be needed for some greedy and clamorous Congressman who is chairman of the committee on appropriations, having control of the department estimates. These, and a number of other things, may occur, against which he is powerless, and

HE MUST GO.

For some years the customs to which I have briefly alluded have become so notorious and flagrant that efforts have been made to correct them by some method which would secure a more careful and judicious selection of officers, and give them some assurance of stability in their positions when secured. Efforts in that direction which were made some ten years ago proved failures, because of the absence of any law to enforce the measures which were provided, as well as because of the determination of Congressmen not to relinquish their shares of "patronage." Recently a civil service law was enacted, which,

it is hoped, will be instrumental in abolishing the evils complained of.

Under the old arrangement to secure a government position it was necessary for the applicant to procure as many letters from prominent politicians of the ruling party as he could possibly do. If he could get letters from members of Congress and Senators, so much the better. Letters from ex-members were of small influence. as they are generally looked upon as out of the way and not likely to appear again for some years at least in the halls of legislation. Having secured

SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS,

they were generally sent by mail to the department at Washington. It would be much more satisfactory to the applicant if he were to put them in the stove, because he would then know exactly what had become of them. Sent to Washington they are carted off with a load of such papers to a large room which is filled with just such documents, and they are buried out of sight forever, unless he can prevail on some influential member of Congress to call in person, resurrect them, and stand by the application until it is granted.

In the meantime tens of thousands of other anxious applicants are scattered over the country, or beleaguring the department officials and the Congressmen, driving them to distraction by their importunities, hoping against hope, wasting their substance and losing their self-respect, only to be unsuccessful in the end.

Such a policy required a young man to pay too high a price for a government position. He would far better seek employment elsewhere, even at a far less salary. In fact, as a rule, a young man will be better off without than with a government clerkship. If he starts in as a clerk, he will seldom get higher. Promotion in clerkships is very limited, and the highest positions are only for the favored few. The

THEORY OF THE RECENT LAW

on the subject of the civil service is that appointments are to be made without regard to political affiliations or personal influence, and for merit and fitness alone.

The civil service is divided under the new law into three branches or classes, as follows:

1. Those classified in the departments at Washington are designated "the classified department service."

2. Those classified under any collector, naval officer, surveyor, or appraiser in any customs district are designated "the classified customs service."

3. Those classified under any Postmaster at any post-office, including that at Washington, are designated "classified postal service."

When a vacancy occurs in any of these branches, it can only be filled after testing the fitness of the applicants by an open competitive examination. These examinations are to be practical in their character, and to relate so far as possible to such methods as will fairly test the relative capacity and fitness of the persons examined to discharge the duties of the service into which they wish to be appointed. The applicants are graded according to their examinations, and the appointments are to be made from the highest grades.

The Duties of Political Life.

Please not thyself the flattering crowd to hear;
'Tis fulsome stuff to please thy itching ear.
Survey thy soul, not what thou dost appear,
But what thou art. —Persius.

THERE are many widely different theories about the duty of men in regard to political life, and the methods of success therein. Before deciding whether success in that field is desirable, we must know how it is to be attained; that is, what price is to be paid for it. For political preferment, like every other desirable thing, may be so dearly

bought as to become neither enjoyable nor honorable.

The only safe theory, and I believe it to be the correct one in a government like ours, is that no man has or can acquire a right to any office, elective or appointive, on account of any service, real or imaginary, which he may have rendered his party or the State. The country has a right to claim the very best service of every one of its citizens. It is a man's duty to give his time, his money, his life, if need be, to his country in time of need, but he is not, therefore, entitled to any special reward for doing his duty. It is a good policy, however, for the State to reward faithful and

DISTINGUISHED SERVICES,

not only because others are encouraged and strengthened thereby to render similar service, although it is questionable patriotism that is only inspired by hope of reward, but also because he who has been faithful in the hour of peril and adversity will be pretty sure to prove equally faithful at all other times.

The best theory is that the people have the right to select those citizens for official stations whom they think to be the best qualified for the

purpose, or the best attainable, judging by their past records. In no other way can we reach the highest good in our form of government. That we are far from such a mode of selection is proven by the methods in vogue in all our political contests, and the mode of selecting our rulers and executive officers. Not once in a hundred instances do the people seek the man. It is the active, adroit, plausible, smooth-tongued man that carries off the prize, regardless of real, solid merit, while the truly deserving and best qualified man is overlooked and neglected, and thus the public interests are jeopardized. But it is the

DUTY OF EVERY MAN,

in a government like ours, to be a politician. That is to say, he should familiarize himself with the theory and science of government, and with the practical creation, construction, and execution of law. I say this because I believe that it is the duty of every man, under ordinary circumstances, to answer any call of his fellow citizens to official life, and to be able to do so acceptably he should be prepared for the discharge of his official duties in a satisfactory manner. If such a call never comes, he is none the worse for having qualified himself, because there is scarcely an occupation

in life but what a man will be better fitted for if he shall have acquired the knowledge which has been suggested.

The man whose chief end and aim in life is to make himself the choice of the people, to make or execute the laws, becomes, by his arts and schemes, that pest and nuisance in the community — a chronic office seeker, or a constant office holder. The frequency of such individuals in society, and a careful scrutiny of their methods, not only creates the suspicion that it is self, rather than country, that inspires their zeal, but it also deters good men from allowing the use of their names when called upon to do so. When our officials are largely made up of the class referred to, it tends to destroy one of the most

IMPORTANT ELEMENTS

in good government; to wit, confidence in our rulers.

It is, therefore, better for young men to pursue a private calling, at the same time acquiring a thorough acquaintance with public affairs and duties, and the true theory of government, never neglecting regular conventions, primaries, and elections, and their attendant duties, allowing office to seek them and not they the office. It is

far more satisfactory to feel ourselves qualified for official station, even though never reaching it, nor even seeking it, than it is to obtain such honors by self-seeking methods of doubtful propriety when unequal to their responsibilities.

The same line of thought and study necessary to fit men for the proper discharge of the duties of a citizen, and to carry on their own personal and private affairs, will be found the most useful, if they should be called to manage the more important and responsible

AFFAIRS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

All knowledge is more or less useful to business men, but that which is most practical and indispensable may be considered an accurate knowledge of the history and Constitution of one's State and Nation, the law of all civilized nations on certain general subjects, as, for instance, in relation to education, crime and its punishment, taxation, marriage and divorce, pauperism, and as many other subjects of social science as possible. He may also acquire a knowledge of the general principles and applications of public law.

These acquirements, with others that will readily suggest themselves, while making a com-

petent business man, would at the same time furnish an admirable equipment for a legislator or an administrative officer.

There are other public positions which require special training, to which the foregoing will apply only in part, as, for example, judicial positions, requiring a technical legal knowledge, and a familiarity with rules of practice. These places are, of course, shut off to all persons excepting those of the legal profession.

It is to be hoped that the time will come in this country, though it now seems to be very far off, when a man well equipped for public station may be able to reach it without himself manipulating caucuses and conventions, or entering into

COMBINATIONS AND BARGAINS

to control nominations. Our society will have to change greatly before that time arrives, however.

Parties and party machinery are necessary to unite effort to secure certain ends, and success is only possible through a union and concentration of the efforts of all those who think alike, or nearly alike, on questions of public policy. To say that any considerable portion of our people prefer bad men and methods in choosing their official agents would be to impeach their integrity

and patriotism. People may be deceived into the selection of improper and incompetent men for such places, and men of good repute may fall before the manifold and plausible temptations of official life, who in private station had been able to maintain their integrity. But the career of such men is short, ending inevitably in disgraceful retirement.

One unfortunate result of our bitter partisan methods is the false estimate of men which is thus created. It is difficult to rid the mind of the

AVERAGE PARTISAN POLITICIAN

in this country of a certain prejudice against leading men of the opposite party, created by the heated discussions and violent abuse drawn out by our political campaigns. And this is peculiar to no one party. Few middle aged men in this country but must have realized this fact in their own feelings towards one or more of their political opponents.

To reach the highest type of a politician, a man must have the courage of his convictions, as it will often occur that he is in advance of public opinion, has superior knowledge, enabling him to realize that his theories are sound, and that the

tendency of the public mind is clearly in that direction, and will reach it, sooner or later. He must therefore, have faith in the outcome, patience to await its arrival, and the courage to meet the hostility, the ridicule, the persecution it may be, by which the people are prone to resent the obtrusion of the radical reformer into the conservative and time honored methods which have prevailed so long.

The adroit politician, and the successful one generally, while he may be a leader and educator of public opinion, has the tact which admonishes him not to venture so far in

ADVANCE OF PUBLIC OPINION

as to imperil his prosperity and estrange him from his party. To do otherwise is to risk his prestige as a leader, and his influence with his party associates, without which he is powerless for good. To assume too much by way of leadership, no matter how wise and judicious the assumption may be in these latter days, is to be classed in the category of "bosses," a modern classification which is popularly supposed to have its representatives in all parties.

The great secret of Mr. Lincoln's power with the people in the stirring and eventful years of

our great civil war was in his rare judgment of the feeling of the masses and the possession of an unerring tact to lead them forward without seeming to force their judgment. Thus the emancipation proclamation, which was the crowning act of his statesmanship in his war policy, would have been a blunder, and perhaps a fatal one, had it been issued on the occasion of the firing on Fort Sumpter.

To succeed in public life, however, in the sense that the procurement of office may be considered success, is by no means a sure

EVIDENCE OF MERIT.

To realize this fact you have only to look about you at those who have held office and those who have failed in their efforts in that direction. Unfortunately the latter class is frequently found to contain the most deserving men.

Thus the men whom we have been taught to consider as our wisest statesmen and most distinguished representatives of safe theories of government have seldom attained the highest official station.

The representative men who have thus fallen short of the great political prize of the Nation must not, for that reason, be considered as having

been failures in any sense. They have impressed themselves on our institutions, have led and directed our progress and our public sentiment as they probably could not have done if hampered by the formalities and restrictions of office, and antagonized by bitter partisan opposition.

Economy the Foundation for Wealth.

Beware of little expenses; a small leak will sink a great ship. — Franklin.

No man is rich whose expenditure exceeds his means; and no one is poor whose incomings exceed his outgoings. — Haliburton.

Economy is of itself a great revenue. — Cicero.

HERE is an economy of money, an economy of time, and an economy of manhood, and by the term economy I wish to be understood as that which avoids all waste and extravagance, and applies money, time, and manhood to the best possible advantage. The term should never be confounded with parsimony, which is economy pushed to an extreme, and which involves meanness and sordid living; nor even to frugality,

which is merely a policy of over careful and persistent saving, and is the next thing to parsimony.

The American people squander too much money on things that not only do them no good, but work them a positive injury. Extravagance is the curse of American life, and the enemy to systematic and practical charity. No one ever thinks of going to a miser or a spendthrift for a contribution to a public or private charity. Men who throw their money away on foolish and hurtful indulgences, have none to spare for useful and

PHILANTHROPIC PURPOSES.

So general have extravagant habits taken possession of certain classes of our population that it requires great courage to practice a sensible economy. The generous and free-handed youth despise their economically disposed companions, denounce them as mean and stingy, and spend money faster than they earn it to show their contempt for such meanness. But the careful and temperate young man who has sufficient courage is willing to deny himself a present gratification of more than doubtful utility for the sake of future accumulation and independence.

The correction of this evil is beyond the reach of legislation, because no law-making power can make a spendthrift rich, nor make the lot of an extravagant man and an economical one equal. Some years ago a well known wealthy man was being brought to the insane asylum for treatment. While he was in the railway cars he was accosted by a well known citizen whose worldly wealth was very limited but who was known as

A FREE LIVER.

"Mr. S.," said he, "suppose you divide your wealth with me, you will still have more than you need."

"What if I do," said the insane man, "in ten years I would have it all again, and you would have nothing."

If one man spends his money as fast as he makes it, there is neither justice nor common sense in making the man who saves a part of his as he goes along divide with him.

Without going into any detail of the different directions in which economy may be practiced, I cannot refrain from alluding to one of the most fruitful sources of extravagance in this country. I mean in the use of strong drink.

It has been estimated that the amount of

money spent yearly in this country for intoxicating liquors is fully six hundred millions of dollars. And this estimate, I think, is far below the mark, because a careful estimate of the amount thus spent in the city of New York alone makes it about sixty millions, or one-tenth of the large aggregate above named among one-fiftieth of our population. In this estimate should also be included an expenditure of time and of manhood, of health and strength, which, if those things could be estimated in money, would more than double the amount, which is worse than thrown away.

Probably much more than half of this enormous amount is spent by the

LABORING CLASSES

who can the least afford such an expenditure, and which is an immediate draft upon funds that should be applied to the betterment of their homes, the education of their children, and their own mental and moral improvement. Such waste makes men poor; poverty makes them discontented; discontent makes them ready for evil counsel, following which deepens their trouble and precipitates their ruin. And this expenditure of money and health is sheer loss, not only

to the men themselves, but to the communities in which they live.

There are other extravagances which, though less flagrant than intemperance, are nevertheless contributing their portion toward sapping the foundations of our home life, and, in a large sense, of

OUR SOCIETY ITSELF.

And some of these, because not generally considered very injurious and sinful, are looked upon as comparatively harmless. In one of the old time English comedies was a character named Vice, whose principal part was in playing harmless tricks on another character personating the Devil. He took all sorts of liberties with his satanic majesty, but in the end the Devil carried him off. We may see many illustrations of the same thing in modern society. There are a host of things which may not be wrong in themselves, but they have wrong tendencies and lead, one knows not where.

It is the disposition, the curiosity, to trifle with evil that works so much of the evil in our day. Some men of strong will may tread on such dangerous ground, and draw back before it is too late, but they are not strong enough to

Beware of little expenses; a small leak will sink a great ship.
—*Franklin.*

bring back those who have been tempted by their example, and have gone beyond recall.

In the good old times men and women married for love, and together entered upon the life work, practicing the economies that lead to wealth and happiness. Now the god Mammon comes in to forbid the banns until the young bridegroom is able to support such an establishment as the bride has been accustomed to. We hear but little nowadays of love in a cottage, but a great deal of misery born of jealousy and extravagance in fashionable boarding houses, hotels, and

STYLISH RESIDENCES.

For a young woman to expect her husband to be able to support the same style of extravagant living at the beginning of his business life that her father does after a long and successful business career, is the height of folly, and to make the effort to do so can only end in ruin, if not disgrace.

But the most hurtful extravagance is that of time, of health, of manhood. Money lost may be regained, but lost time never. Extravagance that saps the health and manhood is the most hurtful of all, for it destroys that without which men are helpless to regain their lost estate. Such

extravagance is the enemy of morality, and sets the soul adrift without compass or beacon light. Destroy a man's health and manhood, and you destroy his means of earning a livelihood, and he then passes into the dangerous classes. It is such men that commit the great crimes that shock and convulse society. Men are wasteful of time as of money, because they have no appreciation of its value. It hangs heavy on their hands, and they must resort to hurtful practices to "kill" it. But

IN ECONOMY MAY BE FOUND

not only the real source of wealth, but of happiness. It is a great mistake, though a very common one, to suppose that young men who see no enjoyment at the theatre, the dance house, or the saloon, but prefer the company of their books, or the social pleasures of similar minded companions, are unhappy, or misanthropic. On the contrary, they are, as a rule, the very happiest and most cheerful of men. Their time is fully and usefully employed, never becomes a burden to them, never has to be killed. They find useful and healthful employment for all their passing moments. Their minds, unimpaired by excesses, are well stored; their consciences, void of offense,

are tender and clear. The ghosts of no misspent hours haunt their slumbers; the pains of no squandered health and manhood rack their waking hours. They have time, and to spare, for healthful enjoyments, for helpful advice to others, as they have money to spare in a good cause, and above all, they have health, which will carry a vigorous manhood into a green and

HAPPY OLD AGE.

Economy is only to be systematically practiced through self-denial, which is oftentimes a difficult school in which to learn. But nowhere else can be found a better or more wholesome discipline. Sir Walter Scott, who possessed all the qualities of a hero, fully appreciated the advantages of such a discipline. He said: "There never did, and never will, exist anything permanently noble and excellent in a character which was a stranger to the exercise of resolute self-denial." "Teach self-denial," said he at another time, "and make its practice pleasurable, and you create for the world a destiny more sublime than ever issued from the brain of the wildest dreamer." The old Scotch song,

"Contented wi' little and happy wi' mair,"

told the simple story of the sturdy race whose

lives were a struggle, but whose character was an illustration of the wholesome discipline that comes to the faithful student in that school.

Self-denial will make a man contented with a humble station in life not only, but it will make him contented in any station. Things that he may not honestly enjoy he can easily do without, feeling no undue sense of privation. Things that he feels that he really needs he may acquire, and when acquired they are appreciated and enjoyed as they will not be when acquired without effort.

THE SPENDTHRIFT,

whose money is inherited, knows no pleasure, because he knows not the value of the things he uses. Those things which cost a man nothing are valueless to him, are not appreciated, give no pleasure, confer no lasting benefit. Let him be turned adrift to earn his own living, and the money he saves will be precious, what it purchases will be precious, and pleasure will be found in its use.

If the young man needs other encouragement than words to a practice of economy and self-denial, let him look about him at the men who have fought the battle and succeeded. Observe their methods, their dress, their manner of life.

There is nothing extravagant or flashy, no meretricious ornaments, no affectation of wealth for the mere sake of show. These things are seen in the "new rich," those who have "struck oil," or have been lucky in stocks or other speculations. But the straightforward, industrious plodder, who has won his way by hard knocks, by economy and self-denial, carries the evidence of his discipline with him to the end. It is the next generation that makes the money go. Examples are to be found in every community of the advantages of economy and self-denial, as well as the evils of extravagance and sinful indulgence. Study those examples, imitate the good, avoid the opposite, and your life will be a continued season of enjoyment to yourself and of blessings to your neighbors.

GOVERNMENT FINANCES.

We are more heavily taxed by our idleness, pride, and folly, than we are taxed by government. — FRANKLIN.

YOUNG men cannot too early familiarize themselves with the structure and functions of the government under which they live, and to the administration of some portion of which they may, sooner or later, be called. This is not the place to enter into any dissertation on the nature and theory of our government, but some facts and figures in regard to one of the most interesting and important features may so far interest the reader as to induce him to pursue the study in works espe-

cially devoted to the several branches of the subject. I refer to finance and taxation, in which every citizen is more or less directly interested.

Since the organization of the government the revenues from all sources, excepting from loans, have aggregated $8,919,835,308. Of this enormous amount about 55 per cent., or $5,072,240,330, was derived from customs, and about 33 per cent., or $3,098,575,330, from internal revenue taxation, leaving but 12 per cent. derived from other sources. Internal revenue taxation has only been resorted to in great

FINANCIAL EMERGENCIES,

as in the several wars in which we have engaged, though the country was not entirely without such taxation for the first fifty-eight years of its history, or until 1848. The greatest collection in any one year of that time from that source was $5,124,708 in 1816, and the smallest amount was $103.25 in 1843. Internal revenue taxes were revived in the second year of our great civil war, and from that source the largest amount collected in any one year since 1863 was $309,226,813 in 1866. The collections in 1883 were $144,720,368. There has been a reduction of 82 per cent. in internal revenue taxation on the taxation in force

in 1866, though the increase in the volume of business of the articles so taxed show less than that per centage of aggregate reduction.

In 1883 the total revenues of the government from all sources were $398,287,581, of which $214,706,496 were from customs and $144,720,-368 from internal revenue. These figures are given not only to show the magnitude of the financial operations of the government, but to indicate the relative importance of the different sources from which that revenue is derived. The

OTHER SOURCES NOT NAMED

above are direct taxation, from which the total income has been $27,918,571, sales of public lands, $220,475,187, from premiums, $204,259,-221, from interest, $485,224, from dividends, $9,720,136, and from miscellaneous sources, $489,677,716. For more than half the period of our history, however, the main reliance for revenue has been from customs, and it is the theory of our government, in ordinary times, to raise the necessary revenue from the levying of duties on imports.

To enter upon the different theories as to how such duties should be levied opens up too wide a field to be properly treated in the limits of one

chapter, and it must suffice to merely state what those theories are, in brief outline.

One class of political economists in this country advocate what is known as a protective tariff, by which is meant the levying of tariff duties on articles which can be profitably manufactured in this country, fixing those duties so high that foreign competition shall not prevent a fair rate of wages to domestic labor and a reasonable profit to domestic capital invested in manufactures.

Another class advocate a tariff for revenue only, by which they mean the levying of tariff duties on such

ARTICLES OF LUXURY

of foreign manufacture as do not come into competition with domestic industries, leaving the latter free to find a market in any part of the world, and leaving the consumer here to purchase those articles which he needs in the cheapest market, no matter where it may be. This latter class is known as free traders, to distinguish them from the protectionists.

Many volumes have been written on the relative merits of the two systems, and parties have divided on the question ever since the

government began. The reader will have no difficulty in finding arguments in favor of both systems, and he is advised to post himself on what is really one of the great questions of the times, both in political controversy and in governmental economy. The writer entertains very pronounced views on the question, but does not deem it proper to obtrude them in a volume of this kind.

Turning to the other side of the account, and we find that the total

ORDINARY EXPENDITURES

of the government since its organization, excluding interest, have been $8,147,676,420, and the interest paid has been $2,318,376,500. This expenditure has been as follows: civil and miscellaneous, $1,705,755,953; war, $4,446,617,370; navy, $1,058,810,428; Indians, $210,772,034, and pensions, $724,658,382.

The account for 1883 stands as follows: Total expenditures, excluding interest, $206,248,000, divided as follows: Civil and miscellaneous, $68,678,022; war, $48,911,382; navy, $15,283,437; Indians, $7,362,590, and pensions, $66,012,573, while the interest paid was $59,160,131.

The Nation has never been entirely free from

debt. The public debt was smallest in 1835, when it was but $37,513, and it was largest in 1866, when it was $2,773,236,173. In 1883 it had been reduced to $1,884,171,728. In 1791 the debt was $75,463,476. In 1812 this had been reduced to $45,209,737. The war with Great Britain in 1812–15 increased it to $127,334,933. When the war with Mexico began, the debt was $15,550,000, from which it increased to $68,304,796 in 1851, and with more or less fluctuation it stood at $64,842,287 in 1860, the year before the civil war began. From this it increased with unexampled rapidity until it reached the enormous figures stated above.

The aggregate of the public debt of 1883 as stated above includes

EVERY FORM OF INDEBTEDNESS,

as bonds outstanding, treasury notes and certificates in circulation. The interest-bearing debt at that time was $1,338,229,150.

An analysis of the debt June 30, 1883, shows that it amounted to $28.91 per capita of our population. The highest per capita debt was August 31, 1865, when it was $78.25. The annual interest charge per capita in 1883 was ninety-three cents. The highest annual interest charge per capita was

August 31, 1865, when it was $4.29. These figures will give the most intelligent idea of the rapidity with which the debt has been extinguished and interest reduced, and illustrates the marvelous resources and prosperity of the country.

Prior to 1868 but a small part of the debt bore less than 6 per cent. interest. In 1867 $17,737,025 bore 4 per cent. interest, and $198,533,435 bore 5 per cent. interest. The remainder bore 6 per cent. and 7.30 per cent. In 1883 the entire debt bears less than 5 per cent. interest, $737,942,000 is at 4 per cent., and $318,204,350 is at 3 per cent.

The steady and rapid decrease of the debt and the continued prosperity of the country is the direct cause of this heavy decline in the rate of interest, and it indicates the high credit of the government in the money markets of the world.

This subject might be continued at great length without exhausting its interest, but enough has been given to afford the reader an insight into the financial workings of the government, and it is hoped to create an interest which may lead to a careful study of this and similar subjects, the facilities for which are easily attained.

Our Aim in Life.

Thy purpose firm, is equal to the deed;
Who does the best his circumstance allows,
Does well, acts nobly; angels could no more.

—Young.

The flighty purpose never is o'ertook,
Unless the deed go with it.—Shakespeare.

IT is curious and instructive to question boys and girls as to their aim in life; the ultimate objects of their ambition, and to note the many different replies. Such examination affords an admirable insight into character, and often indicates the future of the youth.

One wants to become immensely wealthy, simply that he may have what he calls "a good

time," which he will probably find will turn out to be a very bad time.

Another desires wealth that he may have the reputation of being a very rich man. His aim in life is to be looked up to as the wealthiest man in his community. He has observed the homage which men pay to mere money, without considering the methods by which it was acquired, and he thinks to be thus worshipped would be the summit of human enjoyment. He is not yet wise enough in the world's ways to see that it is the gold, and not the man, to which men pay their homage. Let him look at such a man when

THE GILDED ORNAMENTS

are stripped off, and he may change his mind as to the desirable character of his ambition.

Another wants wealth for the good he may do with it. He would found hospitals and asylums, erect churches and libraries, and endow colleges and universities, where old men could spend their declining years in rest and peace, and where young men could become educated for useful lives. He would make the world better because he had lived in it. Such an aim is a lofty and a commendable one, and if faithfully followed to a successful issue, as it has been by many, will richly

repay the work it costs, and he who achieves such an aim will be happy and contented as he could not be were he to become a mere "money grubber," piling up wealth for his children to ruin themselves in the squandering.

It is a long road and a weary one, however, from the budding ambition of the boy to its full fruition late in life, and it is beset with perils, with cares and competitions, that will be very apt to harden the soul and dampen the enthusiasm of youth. Such an one may very easily become so keen in the pursuit of wealth as to lose sight of the object which at first made it seem so desirable.

HE MAY GROW

so zealous in the struggle as to prostitute his powers, make use of unholy means, employ wicked and unscrupulous instruments in its acquisition, until all thoughts of doing good will be buried out of sight under the worldly covering which, assumed at first to protect himself from the hard knocks which are so plentiful in a business life, become at last a part of himself.

Young men who start in life with such an aim should keep their hearts tender, and their memories green by constant practice of the char-

ities that bless; by study of the good that is in men, seeking to increase and develop it; by looking at the bright and not the dark side, the light and not the shadows of life. This is best done—I may say that it is only done—by giving, and not by hoarding; by giving for the benefit of those about you, and not by piling up wealth for future generations.

That it is more blessed to give than to receive is no empty form of words, but it was the utterance of unerring wisdom, of divine truth. He who locks up his heart to the appeals of his fellow men whose necessities may be seen on every hand through a long life will seldom be able to

BESTOW HIS WEALTH

for the real benefit of his race when he has ceased to enjoy its possession himself. He may find, when too late to remedy it, that his heart has become as hard as his gold and as dry as his bonds.

Another may have an ambition to command armies, to lead adventurous expeditions for exploration and discovery. All of these may be commendable, if actuated by the proper motives, and done in aid of a good cause. War is a relic of

barbarism, but wars have seemed to be necessary, and have advanced civilization. Science has been largely indebted to the enterprise of daring explorers since a time long before Columbus first saw the land on this Western continent. The Drakes and the Frobishers of history, that have pushed civilization by their adventurous exploits, have quickened and broadened the thoughts of men, and led them up to their present advanced position.

An ambition of this kind that has for its object merely the gratification of a lust for power, for fame, for prominence, is dangerous and demoralizing. If its purpose be to

ADVANCE THE RIGHT

and overthrow the wrong; to lift up fallen humanity; to make men wiser and better, well and good; let it be indulged.

But the men of great wealth, the heroes in war, in adventure, in discovery, would make but a sorry figure in the history of the past century, so far as their influence on human progress is concerned, but for the influence of other instrumentalities of which the world takes little account. It is the silent forces of nature that are most effective, just as it is the unseen influences

that are most powerful in their action on the human soul. He who can be instrumental in bringing those forces to bear, who can so ally himself with them as to become a co-worker with them, will become the real hero, the true benefactor of his race. Compare the influence wielded by the Wyckliffes, the Luthers, and the Wesleys, with that of the Fredericks, the Wellingtons, the Napoleons. The one is for all time, as powerful in its operation to-day as when the impulse was first given by the obscure and despised reformer. The other would be forgotten except for

THE GLARE OF TRUMPETS

and the pomp of war by which they were attended. The one wrought with the visible and material forces, which are temporal. The others were co-partners with the unseen forces, which are eternal.

Thus as the recollection of the deeds of the military hero grows dim with time his name is forgotten, while that of the moral and spiritual reformer and hero grows brighter with the years. The one wrought for the aggrandizement of himself or his king; the other for the moral elevation of his race. The one was local and

temporary; the other was universal and eternal.

He that is content to become one of the quiet workers, a co-partner with the silent forces, may not so frequently hear his name in the mouths of men, but he will more certainly identify himself with the elevation of mankind.

If he would work for the future, he may do it more effectually by those methods which will forego present applause, personal aggrandizement, self-laudation, in order the better to ally himself with those quiet and unseen influences, which, like the "still, small voice," are more potent than "the rushing mighty wind."

IT IS GIVEN TO BUT FEW MEN

to attain their aim in life. This is the result of a variety of causes. The boy sets his aim high, and fancies that it is easily attainable. He does not realize the unequal nature of the contest that is before him. If he were able to discount the opposition he is sure to encounter, he might be better prepared to meet it, and to fortify himself against the disappointments which are inevitable. These, however, meet him at the outset of his career with crushing force, and unless he is possessed of more than an average share of manly qualities, he is in danger of discouragement.

After a succession of such experiences, he looks about him and sees those who have failed in their lofty aims after a manly struggle, and he asks himself if it pays, after all, to make such superhuman efforts to get ahead. He will be very apt to conclude that it is the part of wisdom not to set his heart entirely on reaching the aim of his youth, but that it is better to do his best in the place he is in, and learn to accept with a thankful heart whatever the Great All Giver may send. He is very apt to conclude that it is scarcely worth his while to push, and scramble, and quarrel to rise above his neighbors; that the

thus created will so greatly detract from success when it comes as to rob it of its chief enjoyment. He will probably conclude that the whole make up of society, the entire machinery of the world, is so eccentric in its motion, so capricious in its operations, and so uncertain in its results, that no man can rely upon it, and that no wise man will.

In all this I have referred more especially to those aims which have their origin and culmination in this world. There are other aims, other objects, which we are sure of attaining without

scheming and dodging, without fever and fret. We may surely advance and succeed in all efforts to grow better, kinder, humbler, more patient, more in earnest to make mankind better. If but the germ of the better life be planted in the heart; if we learn to trust the blessed promises, then may the whole existence, here and hereafter, be a glorious progress and a real getting ahead.

Whatever may be the height of our earthly ambition, it is far beneath that which is easily attainable to every one who is content to be submissive to divine guidance. And as the greater includes the less, if we secure the higher aim we are rendered the more able to attain the lower.

ONLY THOSE WHO ENDURE

to the end are the winners of the world's prizes. The man who faints by the wayside, who falls out of the ranks on the march, is sent to the hospital, never resumes his place at the front, and is soon forgotten. The visions of youth soon fade unless kept bright by an active, living faith in the power of right living, and energy and courage to win through.

But none of these things should move you to forego effort. It is better to have tried, and failed, than never to have tried at all. There is

discipline in effort, even though unsuccessful, which is beneficial. There is virtue even in failure, as it admonishes one to avoid the causes of failure in future effort. "Experience is a dear school," says the proverb, "yet fools will learn in no other." "Experience," says Coleridge, "is like the stern lights of a ship, illuminating only the ocean that is past." But such are wrong views of life's experiences, whether of our own or those of others. They are full of instruction, and wise men may learn from them, and profit by them, and win success through their guidance.

Set your aim high, therefore, and if you do not reach it, you cannot wholly fail.

"Nature that framed us of four elements,
Warring within our breasts for regimen,
Doth teach us all to have aspiring minds;
Our souls, whose faculties can comprehend
The wondrous architecture of the world,
And measure every wandering planet's course,
Still climbing after knowledge infinite,
And always moving as the restless spheres,
Will us to wear ourselves, and never rest
Until we reach the ripest fruit of all,
That perfect bliss and sole felicity,
The sweet fruition of a heavenly crown."

Woman's Work.

Oh! woman! in our hours of ease,
Uncertain, coy, and hard to please;
And variable as the shade
By the light, quivering aspen made;
When pain and anguish wring the brow,
A ministering angel thou. — Scott.

Women, so amiable in themselves, are never so amiable as when they are useful; and as for beauty, though men may fall in love with girls at play, there is nothing to make them stand to their love like seeing them at work. — Cobbett.

IT is divinely ordered that the great majority of women must find their most exalted life in the home circle, in domestic love and duty, but they are not all so called. Many of the best of them, without in any way involving themselves in those questions which are supposed to concern the rights and spheres of the sex, are quietly engaged in

solving those embarrassing problems, through enterprising and honorable endeavor, and with the most satisfactory and triumphant results.

And while there yet exist vestiges of the unjust legislation, and of the cruel and unmanly calumny against such endeavor, yet the generality of men are becoming more disposed to honor success, as well as to aid and encourage honest effort, whether crowned with success or not.

A wise observer said: "If we wish to know the political and moral condition of a State, we must ask what rank women hold in it. Their influence embraces the whole of life. A wife! a mother! two magical words, comprising the sweetest source of man's felicity. Theirs is the

REIGN OF BEAUTY,

of love, of reason; always a reign. A man takes counsel of his wife, he obeys his mother; he obeys her long after she has ceased to live, and the ideas received from her become principles stronger even than his passions."

It is as a mother that woman's most signal triumphs are achieved. The home is her kingdom, the domain of her greatest and most lasting influence. Within the boundary of that kingdom there are none to dispute her sway. There

she is the model, the example, the guide whom the child naturally and unconsciously imitates and follows. Our mother's love is the one great ever present and overruling providence of childhood, the influence of which is constant, lasting, enduring to the end of life.

She is the faithful guardian of the hearthstone. To her it is given to keep bright upon the sacred altars of youthful hearts the divinely kindled fires of purity and innocence. There she reigns supreme, a greater, wiser, nobler queen than she who sits upon a throne bedizened with a gaudy crown. Certain of the loving devotion of

OBEDIENT SUBJECTS,

no shadow of revolt clouds her peaceful rule. Before her wise administration every impure thing is put to flight. The poison cup, the broad, coarse jest, the covert, sceptic sneer, every thought of wrong, or sin, or shame, is banished forever.

In that holy kingdom, ruled by the wise and loving influence of the mother, those impressions are made that are to rule and govern society. The laws of the home are the miniature of those laws and influences which rule the State. There are dropped the tiny seeds, which, falling upon

the good soil of receptive minds in after life,

"In the world's broad field of battle,"

will grow into a great tree, and be known as public opinion.

Thus it comes that those who guide and direct the first tottering steps and the first faint glimmer of thought in the child mind wield an influence second to none other in the world.

The first Napoleon never said a wiser thing than that the great need of France was mothers. By which he meant that his country needed just such home education as has been referred to. Not France alone is in need of such. The mother's influence may be the same everywhere, and is needed everywhere. Her condition influences the morals, the manners, the character of all peoples, of all countries. Debase her, and society and government is debased. Purify, enlighten, and exalt her, and society feels the impulse in its every part, and is purified, enlightened, and exalted in the same proportion.

But as all women are not called to be mothers and teachers of children, there have been other channels of usefulness opened up to them, or rather they have themselves opened them up, in spite of the most bitter opposition and calumny.

And among all these her most brilliant achievements have been in the ministering to the wants of the sick and wounded, in the hospital and on the battle field.

In this direction the thought naturally turns to the successful work of Florence Nightingale, who, with a courage which outshines that of the famous six hundred at Balaklava, wrought such deeds in the name of humanity, in that same war, as will make her name familiar while human suffering endures, and long after the names of the so-called masculine heroes in that campaign are forgotten.

England could raise, equip, and command armies and

WIN VICTORIES,

but as recently as the war referred to her hospital service was the scandal of her history. Exposure and disease carried off its thousands where the enemy's bullets did not reach their hundreds. The great heart of the nation was on fire with indignation at the imbecility which was destroying the flower of the British army.

In October, 1854, Florence Nightingale, with a corps of thirty-seven nurses, left England for the Crimea. She arrived there on the eve of the

great battle of Balaklava to find everything in the utmost confusion, men starving to death for want of the simplest necessaries. Added to these in a few days were more than three thousand wounded men from the battle field. But the quiet, delicate woman was equal to the emergency. She organized her relief measures so thoroughly and so rapidly that a revolution was wrought before the astonished old fogy British surgeons knew what was going on, or before they had recovered from the shock of surprise at witnessing the violation of all their hoary precedents.

A WRITER WHO WITNESSED

her work said at the time: "With the heart of a true woman and the manners of a lady, accomplished and refined beyond most of her sex, she combines a calmness of judgment, and promptitude, and decision of character." But she overcame the open opposition and the silent prejudice of the stubborn surgeons, and won a victory which we profited by when war visited our country and women were inspired by her example, in the hospitals by the Potomac and the Mississippi, and their work was made easier for them by reason of her victory. And the name of Miss Dix will be forever precious in the

memory of American soldiers, and will be linked with that of England's greatest heroine.

Now, as a result of the efforts of those women in ministering to human suffering, we have regularly organized schools of nurses, where women are trained in the duty of hospital work, for which they are peculiarly fitted by natural gifts and in which they are signally successful.

Not only as nurses, but as physicians, are women now winning success. Fifty years ago educated female physicians were unknown in this country.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

there were but two or three of any note. Prior to that time, though she was considered as well qualified for the duties of a nurse, she was not allowed to fit herself to understand the nature of the remedies she administered.

A few brave spirits succeeded in breaking through the fetters of caste, and establishing themselves in the practice of medicine. Progress was slow, but it was sure, and now women by the hundreds are graduated at our medical colleges, and may be found in every city in this country, and American women are practicing medicine with marked success in India, China, and Japan.

In literary pursuits women have always excelled, and many of our most talented writers have been of that sex. Without going beyond our own country we may point to Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, Mrs. Lydia Maria Child, Mrs. Lydia H. Sigourney, Margaret Fuller Ossoli, and the sisters, Alice and Phoebe Carey. These have enriched our literature with contributions that the world will not willingly let die.

In the drama we have been permitted to admire Ristori, Rachel, Ellen Tree, Modjeska. In the world of song there have been such

BRIGHT NAMES

as Rosa Bonheur, Miss Harriet G. Hosmer, and Miss Thompson, and the Musical world has learned to admire Jenny Lind, Parepa Rosa, Miss Kellogg, and Madame Patti.

Of lawyers and clergymen there have been as yet but few. It cannot be that those professions will be forever closed to the weaker sex, though thus far the sterner sex has been able to maintain their pre-emption rights almost undisturbed. Lawyers are proverbial in their respect for precedents, and they find no precedent for female innovations upon their professional prerogatives. Clergymen are also in the very nature of things

Earth's noblest thing, a woman perfected.
—*Lowell.*

conservative. But conservatism must give way before the inevitable tendency of the age, and precedents will be made for an innovation that can offer so many reasons for the change.

Woman, therefore, finds almost every field of industry and enterprise and study open to her, and she is rapidly improving the opportunities offered to break down prejudices and conquer the opposition of centuries.

The enemy of art is the enemy of nature. Art is nothing but the highest sagacity and exertion of human nature; and what nature will he honor who honors not the human? — LAVATER.

It is the height of art to conceal art. — LATIN.

THE origin, growth, and development of beautiful forms in art is a part of the history of the progress of man's civilization. And in regard to each nation, probably one of the most reliable indexes of its progress is found in the stage of its efforts to express its conceptions of beauty. It may also be accepted as an index of moral progress, as well as of religious advancement, as there is an inseparable connection between the good, the beautiful, and the pure, as is clearly shown by the

fact that demoralization and decay is first indicated by a lowering of artistic taste, and a decrease in the power and purity of artistic forms.

But this is not the place for any history, or even sketch, of the progress of art among the nations. Such histories may be found in great abundance in our libraries, and may or may not be studied with advantage by art students, though by no means necessary to a knowledge of the production of beautiful and

ARTISTIC FORMS.

It is the popular belief that a natural taste for art is necessary to the acquirement of great proficiency in that direction. In this, however, as in other occupations to which reference has been made in these pages, there is much genius in work, study, and application. Stories have been told of the boyhood of great artists, to show that they were born with the true artistic genius, but many of these stories are doubtless greatly exaggerated, if not entirely imaginary.

A young man may have a fondness for the study of art, and a strong desire to become able to produce beautiful forms and to convey pleasing impressions. Such an one will be apt to succeed,

even though he have no natural gift in that direction. His fondness for art, his ambition to become an artist, his ability to admire and appreciate beautiful forms will be found, after some years of study, to be an admirable substitute for genius.

One who makes no pretensions to a knowledge of art, nor to any great familiarity with the work of artists, is treading on delicate ground when he presumes to criticize their methods, and it is with much hesitation that I venture to do so. But I cannot resist the conclusion that our

AMERICAN ARTISTS

are, as a rule, too much creatures of imitation, as yet, to attain the highest degree of perfection. The effort in our art schools does not seem to be so much the evolution of beautiful forms from nature, or from the imagination of the student, as to teach him to imitate the production of others which are beautiful, or popular, or fashionable. Thus we have what are known as schools of art, which means that an artist of a certain school is an imitator of one kind of artistic work, while one of another school is an imitator of another and quite a different kind of work. The

methods of treatment of different subjects, of producing certain effects in color, or otherwise, are purely imitative.

This may be the best method of teaching; it may be the only method, but it has always seemed to me that a better way would be to cultivate a greater intimacy with nature, study her methods and her myriad forms of beauty, her lights and shadows, and let the conflicting schools take care of themselves. Not only is there opportunity for study in an intimacy with nature, but there is no more certain and unfailing

SOURCE OF INSPIRATION.

To him who is really in love with nature there is an ever present glamour of memory which ought to, and I believe will under proper circumstances, extend an influence over an artist's work which will impart to it a finish which nothing else can give. In no other way can a picture be made to breathe the real spirit of nature, and such a production will generally be found to draw admirers away from another which is absolutely perfect in all the rules of coloring and technical work.

It is not in the production of painting and drawing that the artistic quality now finds its

only field. Wood carving, pottery ornamentation, designs for stamping and embroidery, printing and engraving, and many other forms of artistic production are now inviting the student by the offer of pleasant and profitable employment. Magazines and illustrated papers are furnishing remunerative employment to a large number of men and women fitted for that work, and those who are qualified for that class of art work find in it a wide field for the exercise of their talent. In no other direction are they brought into contact with so many people, and thus some of our etchers, engravers, and caricaturists, are as well known and exert as wide an influence as our most popular writers.

THE RUDIMENTS OF ART

are now taught in most of our higher schools, and an elementary knowledge may be thus acquired which will develop the artistic taste and quality of the student, while at the same time preparing the foundation for his future more thorough preparation. Special schools for instruction in the technical knowledge necessary to success are now to be found in all our larger places, where the student may be prepared to

ter upon higher branches of study in the same

general direction. Openings for thoroughly qualified young men and young women in the different branches of art are now quite numerous, and the demand for higher class artistic work is improving with the improvement in the tastes of the people. In many of our large factories for the production of linen and cotton goods, carpets, silks, etc., artist designers are among the best paid of the employes.

And while the so-called devotees of high art might be shocked at what they would doubtless consider a prostitution of art, yet the world has about reached a point where one may safely advocate the popularization of beautiful, artistic productions, and bringing them within reach of the masses of the people.

OUR BOOKMAKERS

are thorough believers in this theory, and the holiday books which are found at all our book stores are marvels of beauty and cheapness. That they are wonderful educators of the artistic taste no one now presumes to doubt. The artist who is able to produce a great picture, but whose reputation is such that only the wealthiest citizen can indulge its purchase, may contribute to the enjoyment of the chosen few who are privileged

to see his production, but he must not, therefore, look with contempt on his co-worker who has wrought the designs for those beautiful card chromos which have become familiar as household words in all American homes, and are everywhere exerting such a wholesome influence.

Music is the only sensual gratification which mankind may indulge in to excess without injury to their moral or religious feelings.— ADDISON.

There's music in the sighing of a reed;
There's music in the gushing of a rill;
There's music in all things if men had ears—
Their earth is but the echo of the spheres.

—BYRON.

THE use of musical instruments is older than history, and seems to have been known by all nations, in all ages. On the ancient Egyptian obelisks and tombs are seen representations of musical instruments. The music of the ancient Hebrews has frequent mention in the Sacred writings, and it

appears to have been characterized by a certain well defined melody and rythm. The Greeks regarded music as a science, and in their study of the mathematical character and proportion of sounds, their music became a sort of intoning or poetical recitation, in which melody was a secondary consideration.

Modern music is a modern art, entirely different from that of the ancients, from which it may have originally started, but to which it bears no resemblance. The progress of the change to its present condition of harmony and perfection is interesting, but its history would be out of place here.

MUSIC IS WHAT MAN MAKES IT.

It is an almost irresistible influence for good or for evil. It ministers to the loftiest passions, and to the vilest instincts. As it is used in some of our theatres, saloons, and vile resorts, it is demoralizing, principally because of the impulses that the surroundings impart to the soul. For the same reason, in our churches, where it is joined to lofty and inspiring words, it is exalting and purifying.

So the soul follows it wherever it may lead. It may excite love of God, love for the family, and

for one's country; it may be used to nerve the heart of the soldier in the hour of battle, to soothe the dying. "Let me have music dying," said Keats, "and I seek no more delight."

How important, then, in view of its wonderful influence, that music should not be prostituted to base uses. How important that it should be used only to elevate and refine the spirit, and minister to the better nature of man.

Few things contribute more to the attractions of the home than the music made by some one or more members of the family. In a home circle where

MUSIC IS ONE OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

and frequent enjoyments, there is little danger of sinful pleasures entering to sow the seeds of discord. The power of music is becoming more generally recognized, and more attention is paid to its teaching and practice. Few well ordered households can now be found but what one or more of the inmates have been more or less educated in the art. Our schools recognize its importance, and it has become more or less prominent in the course of study in all.

So general is the love of music diffused among men that the young man or young woman who

neglects to acquire a musical knowledge neglects the most attractive feature of an education, and one by means of which more pleasure can be derived and imparted than from any other single accomplishment.

These remarks do not apply to the thorough and scientific culture necessary to make one a great popular performer or singer. Such culture requires years of training under accomplished teachers, involving great expense. Those who are able to endure the tests required may become celebrated artists, though comparatively few ever do so. Such persons, however, will not come to these pages for instruction.

It is to those who may cultivate a love for and

A KNOWLEDGE OF MUSIC

for the sake of the power and the influence it gives them for good that this chapter is addressed, and this should include all young persons of whatever class or calling. One of the best uses to which leisure time may be applied is in the study of music. Besides being a source of pleasure for others, it is a means of moral impovement to oneself, equal, if not superior, to any of the other accomplishments.

It should be the duty of every right thinking

Music which gentlier on the spirit lies
Than tired eyelids upon tired eyes.

— *Tennyson.*

person to arrest music from the hands in which it is being prostituted, and direct it in those channels where it may be useful and of the highest influence for good.

The influence of music, especially of ballads and songs, upon the national life has always been very great. A wise man said: "Let me make the ballads of a nation, and I care not who may make its laws." National tunes, anthems, and songs have been popular with all peoples, in all times. The "Marseilleise" has inspired the French people in many a bloody revolution. The "Watch on the Rhine" is sung by Germans wherever the language of the Fatherland is spoken. The pathetic ballad, "Home," was in itself sufficient to secure immortality for one of our own countrymen. Such a powerful influence, then, should not be allowed to fall entirely into bad hands, but should, so far as possible, be used for noble and holy objects.

SCIENCE OF TEACHING.

If you suffer your people to be ill-educated, and their manner to be corrupted from their infancy, and then punish them for those crimes to which their first education disposed them, you first make them thieves and then punish them.

—SIR THOMAS MORE.

'Tis education forms the common mind;
Just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined.—POPE.

EDUCATION, as the word implies, is the art of drawing out or developing, the faculties; of training individuals for the duties which they are intended to discharge. Webster says, "it is not so much the communication of knowledge as the discipline of the intellect, the establishment of the principles, and the regulation of the heart." Instruction and teaching is that which supplies the mind

with knowledge. Education is an art, but it depends largely for success upon a science. No man is able intelligently and thoroughly to train a human intellect in any desired direction, until he is familiar with the nature of the intellect, and with the human organism. To know man's nature requires a familiarity with its physiology, or that which relates to the body, with its psychology, which relates to the organization of his mind, and with his moral and religious nature.

But the sciences referred to are as yet in an imperfect and unsatisfactory state, and not in a proper condition of perfection to be accurately applicable to

THE ART OF EDUCATION

in its highest and completest sense. Until they are thoroughly understood and perfected, therefore, education must continue to be, as it has been for so long, a game of haphazard, a species of quackery, almost, whose present rules have been arrived at through the uncertain light of experience, by repeated trial and failure, and by blindly groping after the correct way.

This may be regarded as a Utopian view of what education should be, and it is probably liable to that charge. In the imperfect state of the

sciences necessary to a knowledge of the art of education, we must do the best we can and go on in the old channels, trying to improve them as best we may.

There are few men but have certain theories of their own about educational methods, and will advance them and advocate them on all occasions regardless of their qualification to speak on so delicate and important a subject. Men hesitate to give an opinion in regard to a question of astronomy or geology, because of their lack of knowledge of those sciences, who will elaborate the most startling and original

EDUCATIONAL THEORIES

with still less knowledge than they possess of the sciences.

This is probably the reason for the wide difference of opinion which everywhere prevails as to what constitutes education, and how it is best secured. Many elaborate treatises have been written in support of different educational theories, and the most distinguished educators are at variance in their views in regard to the best method. This is not the place to refer to any of those theories at length, nor do I feel any more competent to pass upon them than I do upon any

other question of science or art with which I am unfamiliar.

Among all the theories which have been advanced there are none that are so concise, practical, and admirable as one elucidated by John Ruskin, and which is worthy of being reproduced in this connection.

It might be disputed, says that author, what processes have the greatest effect in developing the intellect, but it can hardly be disputed

WHAT FACTS

it is advisable that a man entering into life should accurately know. A man ought to know three things:

First — Where he is.

Second — Where he is going.

Third — What he had best do under the circumstances.

First — Where he is. That is to say, what sort of a world he has got into; how large it is; what kind of creatures live in it, and how; what it is made of, and what may be made of it.

Second — Where he is going. That is to say, what chances or reports there are of any other world besides this; what seems to be the nature of that other world, and whether, for information

respecting it, he had better consult the Bible, the Koran, or the Council of Trent.

Third — What he had best do under those circumstances. That is to say, what kind of faculties he possesses; what are the present state and wants of mankind; what is his place in society, and what are the readiest means in his power of attaining happiness and diffusing it.

The man who knows these things, and who has had his will so subdued in learning them that he is ready to do what he knows he ought, I should call educated, and the man who knows them not, uneducated, though he could talk all the tongues of Babel.

It may not be out of place to point out a few

RADICAL DEFECTS

in our systems of education. Their inevitable tendency seems to be, says the same author, to leave men without the natural food that God intended for the human intellect. And the most noticeable feature in that respect is that they despise, or what is equivalent, neglect religion. And in this I want to distinguish theology, or talk about God, from religion which, is a binding or training to His service. Of the former there is plenty, but its effect seems to be to loosen

instead of to bind to God's service. And I think this is shown by the character of the graduates from all our great universities, or at least from those that are not distinctively religious institutions. Few of them are pronounced believers in the truths of revelation, and few of them hesitate to express their absolute disbelief therein.

Is this because there is nothing in the Christian religion so reasonable and demonstrable that it can be taught to our youth and fixed permanently in their minds, or is it because no measures are taken to train them in

SUCH KNOWLEDGE

and belief? It would seem to be the duty of a civilized community to find out, if possible, even at the cost of no end of trouble, and expense, and research, which of these two suggestions is true. And if no satisfactory proof can be given of revelation, of any supernatural fact, or divine ideas, or doctrine, then to confess it boldly, and be done with all the expensive appendages of an effete superstition which we call Christianity.

But if there do exist evidences of certain religious facts which can be shown as clearly as anything in astronomical or geological science not absolutely ascertained, then let such demon-

strations be set before our youth in such manner as that they may not drift away into a sea of doubt and uncertainty as soon as they leave college walls.

Another important defect is that our educational system neglects and decries, if it do not actually despise, politics, and I fear the colleges are right, and there is none. At least, if there is, it is still an infant, and a very little one at that. Such a science implies, in its complete sense, a knowledge of the operations of the virtues and vices of men acting upon themselves and upon society; an understanding of the

RANKS AND OFFICES

of their intellectual and bodily powers in their various adaptations in life; the understanding of the proper offices of all human effort and endeavor, including the principles of jurisprudence, as well as of commerce, all of which must be coupled with the present condition, needs, and wants of mankind.

All this may not be taught to youth, but its foundation principles can be, so that a pupil so taught may be sent out into the world with his mind as carefully adjusted to detect and abhor false doctrine in public policy as to notice and

avoid errors in orthography or syntax, or a false note in music.

Men generally seem satisfied to believe that the crime and suffering of the world are necessary evils which cannot be avoided nor cured. But such seems to be a low view of humanity, and it does not seem extravagant, under all circumstances, to hope that the day will come when nations may be like well ordered households, and the amount of poverty, crime, and sin which darkens the world and retards the progress of the race be made to disappear. The idea may be an Utopian one, but it is certainly worth struggling and praying for, and if there be truth in revelation, it is

POSSIBLE OF ATTAINMENT.

Such ideas from such a man sound like an inspiration. The world may yet be a long way off from their realization, but when we look back along the way up which the race has come, and contemplate the impediments it has met with and overcome in its advance to its present standpoint, the future looks less difficult, and the end seems less uncertain and less impossible of attainment.

And it is as important in educational methods to avoid that which is wrong as to seek that

which is right and wholesome and useful. In the broadest sense of the term a man is educated by everything, every influence that he is subjected to from his cradle to his grave. And it is one of the chief duties of the educator, and one of the most difficult, oftentimes, to eradicate wrong theories, ideas, and information from the mind of his pupil.

In moral training, the educator can only play a part, and not the most important part, home and neighborhood influences generally predominating. Development in this direction is mostly unconscious on the part of both

PUPIL AND TEACHER,

and does not probably secure the attention its importance demands. The other branch, intellectual, or mental training, and instruction, is considered more especially the province of the teacher, and has come to monopolize his whole time and attention, except in so far as his silent influence and example may have an effect in moral training.

A consideration of the things to be taught opens up a field too wide for treatment here, embracing as it does the vast mass of truths composing the whole sum of human knowledge,

from which are to be selected such things as are deemed necessary to make up the curriculum of youth. And in determining this question it must be borne in mind that each truth taught serves two distinct purposes, as information to be acted on, and as mental discipline. This should naturally guide the selection, not only to that which is most useful, but also to that which will have the most improving effect. The discussion of this point, however, necessarily opens up the whole field of what should and what should not be taught, which would require far more space than can here be spared.

Home Entertainment.

It was the policy of the good old gentlemen to make his children feel that home was the happiest place in the world; and I value the delicious home feeling as one the choicest gifts a parent can bestow.—Irving.

ONE of the great charms of the home life is the provision for rational and innocent amusements and enjoyments to while away the evening hours, and keep the younger members of the household from wandering into forbidden paths in search of sinful entertainments.

The long evenings of the autumn and winter may be made the happiest of all happy times, instead of being allowed, as they are, to drag

wearily through, in the dreary dullness of many so-called homes. When all the cares that infest the day have taken flight, and the mother's hour of rest has come; the father has cast aside his business worries and perplexities, and all the members of the family circle are ready to throw themselves into the innocent amusements which the hour may be made to afford, then comes the time in which may be made the most pleasant and lasting impressions of childhood.

It may be well to bear in mind, if these amusements are attended with trouble for some, that such

HOME ATTRACTIONS

are the certain antidote to the general and increasing habit of looking away from the home circle for evening enjoyments. If entertainment is not provided at home, it will certainly be looked for in by and forbidden paths, because recreation and relaxation will be obtained somewhere, and happy is that boy, or girl, young man, or young woman, who finds the best of what is needed at home.

A lively game, an interesting and instructive book read aloud, in musical families (and all may be more or less so) a song to be practiced or sung

in concert; these things will not fail to furnish entertainment that will make an evening pass pleasantly and profitably.

By exercising some forethought during the day, a little management by mother or father, which need not be known by the other members of the family, a new and interesting programme can be provided for each evening's entertainment, and the time will soon come to be looked forward to with the most pleasant anticipations.

An excellent plan, where the family is numerous, is for the older members, parents, and children, each in their turn, to

PROVIDE THE EVENING'S AMUSEMENT.

This tends to excite a pleasant emulation as to who can best provide for the evening hour. Where such a method is systematically arranged and regularly maintained, it comes to be looked forward to with the utmost interest, and the members of the family soon grow very loth to spend an evening away from home.

The family that adopts and carries out such a system of home entertainment will always be found to be uncommonly united, bound together by the strongest ties of affection, with a common attachment for home that will last through life,

Nor need we power or splendor,
Wide hall or lordly dome;
The good, the true, the tender,
These form the wealth of home.

— *Mrs. Hale.*

be transplanted into other homes when the circle is broken and scattered, and the members have found new ties and become the heads of other happy homes.

Probably one of the most unfailing sources of entertainment is a good book, and of these, fortunately, the supply is large. Those who are able to enjoy what is commonly called dry reading may safely be left to take care of themselves. The effort will be with those who are not happy in such reading. But the latter may be greatly improved in their tastes by

JUDICIOUS SELECTIONS,

beginning with books of a lighter character — though these must be selected with care, or they may have the very opposite effect.

For the young children toys and pictures may be provided, and these are now both cheap and abundant. Money thus spent is well invested. Such things occupy their time, expel bad thoughts, which, once in the mind, are hard to drive out, while they at the same time quicken all the childish faculties as nothing else will. It will also add largely to the enjoyment of the little ones if the parents enter into their sports and show no sign of fatigue or impatience before the

unceasing and searching fire of questions which will surely meet them.

There are scores and hundreds of games, puzzles, plays, and the like which are available for purposes of home entertainment, any of which, under intelligent and spirited management, will be found to be very agreeable. Volumes are now published devoted to such games and amusements, any one of which will be found to be a rich mine that may be worked a long time before its valuable deposits are exhausted.

CHILDREN ARE EASILY AMUSED,

and the games which the parents enjoyed, and which have come down through many generations, seem as fresh in the child-world to-day as if they bore the stamp of the latest patent right. Older children are also more easily entertained than most people imagine, and respond promptly and thankfully to efforts in that direction. They are so accustomed to be ignored, and looked upon as too young to appreciate those things in which their elders take delight, that their response to the slightest efforts to amuse them is often exceedingly touching.

It is unsafe to continue for long the policy of ignoring the inquiring minds of the young in the

family. If they do not find answers to their questions, or sympathy in their aspirations at home, where they have a right to expect it, they will seek it elsewhere, and when they find it away from home, it is more apt to have an unhealthy than a wholesome influence.

Parents should keep alive and bright their sympathy with children and with childish fancies as long as they can. Nothing so effectually keeps old age at bay, and prolongs the cheerfulness and pleasures of life's spring time into the days of the sere and yellow leaf.

THE SCROOGES OF LIFE,

aged before their time, are the bugbears of children, who flee at their coming. Children seem to have an instinctive knowledge of those who love them and those who do not, and they are very sure to show their feelings in a most decided manner.

Child life has always been full of innocent and pleasant romances, myths, and mysteries, which have been handed down from a remote time. The story of Santa Claus is one of these, and it has brightened the lives of children for centuries. I would not willingly choose for a friend the man who would purposely destroy such

pleasant fancies, and take away such a volume of enjoyment and instruction from the child world. The innocent deceptions of the holiday season are as harmless as their effects are wholesome and instructive.

When the child grows wiser, and finds that the providence which it had attributed to the mythical Santa Claus really came from another and dearer source, so far from disappointing and saddening him it rather tends to

DEEPEN HIS AFFECTION,

and confirm him in the feeling that that providence will not be withdrawn while life remains. To learn that the thing which the child supposed was the gift of a mysterious stranger, who comes to all good children alike, is really the gift of a beloved parent, brother, or sister, will never injure the child's faith and trust in those who have perpetuated the pleasing deceit purely for its own greater enjoyment. Long may Santa Claus continue to be the universal child provider of the happy Christmas time and evil to him who would destroy the pleasant illusion.

To the affectionate parent and the kindly disposed brother or sister many methods of home entertainment will readily suggest themselves.

Where all are desirous to please, the object is accomplished without difficulty, and the very effort and determination in that direction will itself be a source of infinite pleasure. In such a family there is little danger of failure to find rational and useful entertainment.

In the household where the father, absorbed in business, seeks his home only to rest and sleep off his fatigue and worry; where the mother is harrassed by the burdens of her household, or attracted by the glare of fashion; where the sons and the daughters are morose, and seek the company of the giddy and thoughtless; in such a household it needs a revolution to effect such a transformation, and to make the circle what it ought to be. Unfortunately such revolutions can only come from within, and when all are equally demoralized there is little hope of improvement.

Common Sense Etiquette.

As the sword of the best tempered metal is the most flexible, so the truly generous are most pliant and courteous in their behavior to inferiors. — Fuller.

The manner of a vulgar man has freedom without ease, and the manner of a gentleman has ease without freedom.

— Chesterfield.

Virtue itself offends when coupled with forbidding manners.

— Bishop Middleton.

Good manners is the art of making those people easy with whom we converse. Whoever makes the fewest persons uneasy is the best bred in company. — Swift.

If we could be brought to realize the extent to which manners enter into men's estimate of each other, we would pay more attention to their cultivation. Burke, the great English orator and statesman, certainly had a full appreciation of their importance when he said: "Manners are of more importance than

laws. Upon them, in a great measure, the laws depend. The law touches but here and there, now and then. Manners are what vex or soothe, corrupt or purify, exalt or debase, barbarize or refine us by a constant, steady, uniform, insensible operation like that of the air we breathe. They give their whole form and color to our lives. According to their quality, they aid morals; they supply them, or they totally destroy them."

To a great extent a man's manners are an index of his real character. They are the

EXTERNAL INDICATION

of his interior and true nature. Through them may we learn his feelings, his fancies, his temper. But in this I speak not for the conventional standards of etiquette, but of that natural manner which is the inevitable outgrowth of natural qualities which have been improved by self-culture.

I have never had a great deal of faith in, or respect for fixed rules of etiquette, nor for the good manners taught only by books which purport to be guides to manners in so-called polite society. These consist for the most part in mere posturings, which men learn as an animal may be taught tricks, and are apt to be so transparent

a covering that they fail to conceal the natural rudeness of the pupil beneath.

Genuine and hearty good manners are the outcome of gentleness and kindness, and are as far removed from the artificial etiquette taught by a dancing master as a gentleman is from a boorish clown. Good manners have been well defined to be the outward manifestation of the inward feelings we have for others.

It is related that when

DANIEL WEBSTER,

an overgrown and ungainly boy, left his rude home to attend a distant school, his behavior at the table of his boarding house was awkward in the extreme, while his diffidence was painful to behold. The gentleman with whom he boarded had the sagacity to perceive that direct rebuke would wound young Webster so deeply that it would fail of its object; and he also had the taste to effect a reform in a different manner. He instructed his own son, about the age of the young boarder, to imitate some of the awkward habits of the latter, and when he had done so, reprimanded him therefor with the happiest results. Here was the true courtesy, which could hesitate to risk the wounding of a sensitive nature so long

as other means were available to accomplish the same result.

Good manners are most frequently shown in a studied regard for the opinions and the individuality of others. To bear and forbear is a good rule in etiquette, and in so many other things. If we fail to respect others we cannot claim respect for ourselves. To be tolerant and forbearing, and to forego harsh judgments, is a habit easy enough to acquire, and it will enable us to avoid many quarrels, ruptured friendships and harsh criticisms of our own actions.

A dozen years ago I was en route to

THE YELLOWSTONE PARK,

and had in my company several young men who were going to join the government geographical surveying party in that region. Our party filled the stage coach, which was to carry us from Corinne, on the shore of the Great Salt Lake, in Utah, through Idaho, across the summit of the Rocky Mountains, across Montana, and to the border of the park. There was but one vacant seat, which the agent at our starting point, in a spirit of mischief, as I afterwards learned, told me had been taken by a Mormon bishop, who would make the greater part of the trip with us.

As we would be in close company with the church dignitary for a week of continuous travel, night and day, I feared the young men might be tempted to ridicule his religious doctrine and practices, which would have been both discourteous and disagreeable. I therefore took them aside and requested their forbearance under the circumstances, which they promised only so far as not to begin any

DOCTRINAL CONTROVERSY

or criticism, but threatened that if the Bishop should begin the matter, they would make it as lively for him as they possibly could.

We got on famously together for two or three days. The Bishop proved to be a thorough gentleman, courteous, intelligent, and unselfish to such a degree that he won the respect of our entire party, and we wondered that Mormonism could produce such a fine example of the Christian gentleman. The subject of Mormonism was carefully avoided until two or three days and nights of the tedious journey had been consumed, when one morning, in answer to a question, the Bishop himself spoke out in mild condemnation of the whole Mormon system. We were astonished, and could hardly credit our own

senses. Explanations followed, and we found that our agreeable companion was not the Mormon but the Protestant Episcopal Bishop of that vast mountain diocese. By his thorough good breeding and courtesy he had conquered our aversion to his creed and won our hearty

RESPECT AND ESTEEM.

He had his pleasant revenge at the next general assembly of his church in Baltimore, when he related the incident much better than I have done here, and in a most humorous manner, and I enjoyed its recollection with him some three years later while travelling with him in Southern Utah.

A courteous, well-mannered man does not affect greater wisdom, wealth or knowledge than his neighbor. He is never heard to boast of his rank, his birth, or his standing, nor does he look down upon those who are less fortunate than himself in those respects. On the contrary he prefers to let his conduct and demeanor fix his status in society.

One of the greatest hindrances to the cultivation of genuine courtesy is selfishness, want of proper sympathy and consideration for others, which will inevitably lead us to neglect the

"small, sweet courtesies" which contribute so much to life's pleasures, and the neglect of which so greatly increases life's pains. Selfishness, too, leads men to affect slovenly and

OFFENSIVE HABITS,

thus defying and shocking the feelings and tastes of others. This is a rudeness and incivility only different in form from many other manifestations of want of good manners.

Good manners may be considered as supplementing talent, by enabling men the better to make their way in the world. It brightens and improves society, and adds greatly to the enjoyment of life.

There are many places where good manners may be learned, but no school is as effective as the well ordered home. What has been said elsewhere in this volume in regard to other branches of home instruction applies with equal or greater force to the question of impressing young people, in their tender years, with the great importance, the substantial advantage, of acquiring an ease of manner, a pleasant address, and a courteous bearing. These will not only tend to elevate their possessors, but will in the end influence all their associates. Some one has said that personal polish

is like the finish to the diamond; it adds nothing to the intrinsic value of the stone, but it enables the most casual observer to recognize a value that would be otherwise unsuspected. And as the diamond in the rough needs the polisher's chisel to remove the irregularities and develop the beauties, so the rough human character is polished, its beauty and intrinsic value developed by the discipline of life, and the daily contact with good men in the everyday work of the world. Thus Lord Chesterfield said: "Manners must adorn knowledge, and smooth its way through the world."

But care should be exercised to avoid that affectation of courtesy, that travesty of good manners, which is so frequently the thin gloss of a gross and sensual nature, a sham exterior to the worst qualities. While all the little

ARTS AND GRACES

that go to make up what is known as good manners in a man or woman are of great importance, and should be thoroughly appreciated and carefully observed, if they are acquired at the expense of the genuine qualities of honor, sincerity, and truthfulness, or are used only to conceal the absence of those qualities, they will

prove but thin disguise, and will not long deceive. A man may be

"The very pink of courtesy"

to all outward seeming, and yet at heart be a demon of cruelty and injustice. Byron describes such a man, a pirate, as

"The mildest mannered man
That ever cuttled ship or cut a throat."

The ideal of beauty must be in the heart and soul, not alone in the eye, for if it be not it will fail to produce beauty and purity of life, and will be of no value.

Polite manners are desirable, but they are worthless if they do not result in polite acts. Manners that are merely superficial will not long pass current as the genuine article. And if you are able to acquire but one of the qualities, grace of manner or honest courage, choose the latter, and let the former go. For as purity is far more desirable than elegance, so are a pure heart and an upright mind rather to be chosen than the highest perfection of mere artificial manners.

Lord Chesterfield gave the following definition, which, though selfish, is the meaning that is

generally accepted: "True politeness," said he, "is perfect ease and freedom. It simply consists in treating others just as you love to be treated yourself."

And Bulwer looked upon politeness as a

MATTER OF POLICY

by which to win a good name or conceal a bad one. "There is no policy like politeness," said he, "and a good manner is the best thing in the world, either to get one a good name, or to supply the want of it."

Such are the views of worldly men, both of whom adopted a perfect courtesy of demeanor, which illy concealed their innate selfishness.

How different were these men, though deemed the very models of courtesy, from that other great Model of whom an English poet wrote:

"The best of men
That e'er wore earth about Him was a sufferer;
A soft, meek, patient, humble, tranquil spirit—
The first true gentleman that ever breathed."

The Study of Biography.

My advice is to consult the lives of other men as he would a looking glass, and from thence fetch examples for his own imitation. — Terence.

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time;
Footprints that perhaps another,
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,
Seeing, shall take heart again. — Longfellow.

HE most useful and instructive of all reading for the young is biography; the histories of the lives and methods of men who have succeeded in life and left their mark upon their time for the guidance and encouragement of those who may come after them. A man lives and moves his little

round in the world, circumscribed in a limited sphere of action, influencing few, coming in contact only with men of his own class, dies and is soon forgotten. The world knew him not beyond the range of his own immediate circle. Put him on a higher plane, infuse into him a spirit of adventure, a genius for invention, a passion for conquest, a heart inspired by philanthropy, and he becomes a recognized power. Discoveries add to his fame; new devices for the various arts add to his wealth. Hospitals, asylums and reformatories spring up at his bidding. Men honor him in life and mourn him in death. His deeds are recorded. His sayings, his methods, the details of his life, become precious, and are studied that others may learn the secret of his success, and become

EQUALLY SUCCESSFUL.

There is nothing so inspiring to the struggling, ambitious youth of limited advantages, as the graphic history of the struggles of successful men who began in humble life and came up through great tribulation. In the study of such books the young man may learn how the very difficulties which confront him may be avoided or overcome, and how even his privations may be

made conducive to his success. There, too, he may learn to avoid the errors which others have fallen into which retarded their progress. In short, he is enabled to supplement, in some measure, his own industry, talent and enthusiasm by the same qualities which in other men have made the world yield up its honors and its treasures.

Biographies of men in every department of industry and in every intellectual pursuit and learned profession are found in plenty upon the shelves of our booksellers and in the catalogues of our publishers. The young man has a wide field to select from.

MEN OF LETTERS

are largely represented in these volumes. Statesmen and soldiers, clergymen, doctors and lawyers, who have risen to eminence have been celebrated by the biographer. If your tastes and studies are towards inventions, the lives of the Siemens brothers will furnish the most brilliant examples of the triumphs of inventive skill.

There were four of the Siemens brothers, natives of Hanover, and what Krupp is among German industrials in warlike arts the collective name of Siemens is in the arts of peace.

Siemens telegraph wires gird the earth, and the Siemens cable-steamer Faraday is constantly engaged in laying new ones. It is a Siemens invention that fishes out the broken ends of a cable from the stormy ocean depths. The Siemens mercury unit measures electrical resistance. The Siemens electric light illuminates the assembly rooms of all nations, and the saloons of steamships on every sea, in competition with the Siemens gas light. The Siemens electric railway motor is the coming power for streets and tunnels. The details of their inventions alone would fill a volume. They were successful in their calling in the fullest sense, and a study of their methods cannot but encourage the struggling genius whose mind is

INTENT ON CONQUESTS

in the same field. One of the brothers died a few months ago in England, and was followed to his grave in Westminster Abbey by the nobles and the great men of the realm. Forty years before he had entered the great English metropolis poor, unknown, almost discouraged in a land of strangers. He gained his victory honestly and it was more lasting and brilliant than those of many of those who rest beside him in that

mausoleum of the dead greatness of the realm, yet who have filled a larger page in the world's history.

In our own country a few months ago died another man who achieved wealth and greatness through his invention of the reaping and mowing machine. Cyrus H. McCormick revolutionized the hand labor of every harvest field, and added to the material growth and wealth of every community where his machines found their way. He enriched individual effort, opened up new areas to agriculture, stimulated immigration, and converted the great West into an

INTERNATIONAL GRANARY.

Unlike so many of his class, he added to inventive genius great business tact and indomitable energy, and was thus enabled to reap the benefit of his own inventions. He was not an inventor only, he was a manufacturer and merchant as well, making and marketing his own machines which he sent to all parts of the world. He was an excellent type of the large brained, energetic, practical American inventor, and his busy career offers many features to encourage the aspiring youth who has chosen the same field of enterprise.

The career of Garfield contains much to encourage the young man. A childhood and youth of grinding poverty drove him to the humblest occupations to gain a livelihood, but the discipline of poverty hardened his muscles and ripened his intellect until he became what the world knew him. The struggles of his youth taught him the value of time, which he never wasted in after life, for he was a student to the last.

Of the more recent dead, Bishop Matthew Simpson affords

A SHINING EXAMPLE

to the youth who has a desire to follow in the same sacred calling. He achieved brilliant success as an orator, an administrative officer, and a patriot, in spite of great discouragements in early life. He once told the writer that a year or two after he entered the ministry he became greatly discouraged at his want of success, and firmly resolved that he would retire from the pulpit. His purpose was changed while listening to a sermon by a rude and unlettered preacher, which he characterized as the worst sermon he ever heard. On inquiry, however, he learned that the poor preacher was remarkably successful in bringing persons into the church. "If that

man can, so can I," said the future Bishop to himself, and the world is better for that resolve.

He was ungainly in his appearance and awkward in his manners in early life, and so diffident that he habitually shrank from public observation. He was also doubtful of his own power, though his friends and associates recognized his merit in his earlier years. As an orator he always depreciated his own ability, and was wont to say in later life that if he could go back and start anew upon his career he would devote more attention to the art of oratory, the power and influence of which could not be overestimated. Yet as

AN ORATOR WITH POWER

to sway a crowd by the sheer force of his own personality he had no superior in this country.

Probably the most striking instance of his oratorical powers was displayed in Exeter Hall, London, in September, 1881, on the occasion of the great meeting held in memory of Garfield. The Bishop began his speech, and there was of course quiet and respectful attention, but the increasing interest was clearly manifest, until the peculiar power of the orator began to make itself felt, when the vast audience rose as one man, and

swayed as trees before the wind, under the magic spell which the great magician had woven, apparently unknown and unintended by himself. It could not have been the words of his discourse alone, for one can read them now unmoved; it could not have been the sympathy of the audience, for most of those present saw and heard him for the first time. It was the personality of the orator, who was himself affected by the occasion, the theme, and the assembly.

In regard to the characters referred to, it may be said that they each had genius and

PECULIAR FITNESS

for their work, which gave them success. While this may be measurably true, yet it was hard work, close application, intense study, and devotion to duty, more than genius, that made them world renowned. Each one of the men named would no doubt have succeeded equally well in any other calling. Bishop Simpson would have become a famous physician, if he had left the pulpit as he intended in the early years of his ministry. Sir Charles William Siemens and his three brothers would have reached the top in any other industry or profession into which they had thrown their study and energy. McCormick,

when a youth, might have chosen almost any line of business other than that to which he devoted himself, with equal success. It is not genius, it is work and study and persistent energy that win the prizes of life; this fact you will learn as you study the lives of those who have won.

How to Cultivate Memory.

Memory is the cabinet of imagination, the treasury of reason, the registry of conscience, and the council chamber of thought.

—Basil.

The powers of memory are two fold. They consist in the actual reminiscence or recollection of past events, and in the power of retaining what we have learned in such a manner that it can be called into remembrance as occasions present themselves, or circumstances may require.—Cogan.

THE memory may be cultivated, like any of our other powers, by use, without abuse. A well regulated mental exercise at any time of life is improving to it, but constant efforts to goad it into extraordinary performances, especially in early life, before it has acquired its full strength, are almost certain to result injuriously, inducing premature but permanent decay.

The powers of memory, like the physical powers, are only gradually developed, and should no more be overtaxed in youth than any other powers of mind or body. As we would never expect a boy of twelve to do the manual labor of a man of thirty, neither should we impose tasks upon a child's memory which would be difficult for a man to master.

As a general rule the memory (and by the word is meant the mind, the power of retaining impressions made through the senses and reviving them by mental force alone) can be best improved by increasing the vigor and freshness of the

NERVOUS SYSTEM

as a whole, and by avoiding exhaustion, undue excitement, and any other cause that may produce nervous waste.

The brain may be stimulated at the expense of other portions of the system, but nothing is gained thereby. Every man has a certain store of mental power which must last him through life, and which cannot be greatly increased. It is strongest in early life, and diminishes in power as the supply decreases in age. It may be economized and judiciously husbanded, but cannot be increased.

But many methods have been devised of arranging human knowledge and presenting it to enable memory to retain it at a less expenditure of power. These methods may be by general teaching, and also by special devices, which have been called Mnemonics, or the art of memory. This is no new theory or method, though it has had teachers in modern times, and has been found of great service. It was taught by Simonides, a Greek poet, in the Fifth century B. C.

The method consists in a system of association of facts or principles which are desired to be

FIXED IN THE MEMORY

with certain familiar object or symbols in such a manner that the though of the symbol will bring to the memory the thought of the object with which it is associated. To illustrate it: Choose a large and diversely arranged place, a house, for example, divided into several apartments. Impress on the mind, with care whatever is remarkable in it, so that the mind may run over all the parts without delay or hesitation. Then if you have to remember a series of ideas, you place the first in the hall, the second in the parlor, and so on with the rest, going over the windows, to the chambers, and the several articles in each. Then

when you wish to recall the succession, you commence going over the house in the order fixed, and in connection with each apartment you will find the idea that you attached to it.

The principle of the method is that it is more easy for the mind to associate a thought with a well known place than to associate the same thought with the next thought, which may be entirely foreign, and without any medium of connection. This is as old as Quintilian, who gave substantially the above description of it.

The familiar method of

TYING A STRING AROUND THE FINGER,

to remind the husband or son of an errand to be done during the day, so often resorted to by wives and mothers, is the principle of Mnemonics on a small scale. The errand is associated in the mind with the string, and when the latter is seen or felt, it brings to mind the former.

One of the hardest efforts of memory is the recollection of numbers, and many devices have been arranged to enable one to remember them. The same is true of facts which have no connection one with another, as for instance the number of days in each month. How many people are compelled to repeat:

"Thirty days hath September,
April, June, and November;
All the rest have thirty-one
Excepting February alone,
Which has but twenty-eight in fine,
Till leap year gives it twenty-nine."

But for these familiar mnemonic lines it would be troublesome for some people to recall instantly the lengths of the different months. The names of English sovereigns, and the order in which they lived and reigned, would have been very difficult to remember but for the fact that some curious genius solved the trouble by composing the following lines:

First William the Norman,
Then William, his son;
Henry, Stephen and Henry,
Then Richard and John.
Next Henry the Third,
Edwards one, two, and three;
And again, after Richard,
Three Henrys we see.
Two Edwards, Third Richard,
If rightly I guess;
Two Henrys, sixth Edward,
Queen Mary, Queen Bess.
Then Jamie the Scotchman,
Then Charles whom they slew,
Yet received after Cromwell
Another Charles too.

Next James the Second
  Ascended the throne;
Then good William and Mary
  Together came on.
Till Anne, Georges four,
  And fourth William all past,
God sent Queen Victoria,
  May she long be the last.

The names of the Presidents of the United States have been arranged in rhyme for a similar purpose, as follows:

First stands the lofty Washington,
That nobly great, immortal one;
The older Adams next we see,
And Jefferson comes number three;
The fourth is Madison you know,
The fifth one on the list Monroe;
The sixth an Adams comes again,
And Jackson seventh in the train;
Van Buren eighth upon the line,
And Harrison counts number nine;
The tenth is Tyler in his turn,
And Polk eleventh as we learn;
The twelfth is Taylor that appears;
The thirteenth Fillmore fills his years;
Then Pierce comes fourteenth into view;
Buchanan is the fifteenth due;
The sixteenth Lincoln foully slain;
The seventeenth was Johnson's reign;
Then Grant was by the people sent
To be their eighteenth President;

As the nineteenth next R. B. Hayes
Filled out the number of his days.
The twentieth came, Garfield appears,
A name the nation reads through tears;
Now Arthur rules in Washington,
Making the number twenty-one.

The same Mnemonic system of versification has been applied to many other similar series of facts, as, for instance, the names and order of the books of the Old Testament, the same of the New Testament; the names of Shakespeare's plays, etc. Thus in a small compass, by a slight effort of the memory, are these facts learned, and by such a metrical connection or association that once learned they will never be forgotten.

ORATORS HAVE ADOPTED

the method of association to enable them to remember their speeches, and with great success. A number of years ago a "professor of mnemonics" lectured on and taught the art of memory to pupils in this State, and successfully, too, in the case of many of his scholars, one of whom became so proficient that he was able to repeat a sermon he had heard almost word for word as it was delivered. The teacher's method was by means of imaginary symbols which he named to the

number of one hundred, and these had to be made thoroughly familiar to the mind. They were all objects with which every one was familiar in daily life, as, for instance, 1. a tree; 2. a horse; 3. a chain; 4. a horse, and so on. When these were learned, the rest of the study was pleasant and comparatively easy. Names, facts, or objects to the number of one hundred could then be given to the pupil, and by the mere association of the article or fact given, with its appropriate symbol, the memory was aided and easily accomplished the task.

The ingenuity was taxed at times to associate the article or fact to be remembered, but even this was an aid to the memory. To illustrate the method still further: With the symbols named above

THE PUPIL WAS REQUIRED

to remember the following names in their order: 1. The Union Pacific Railroad; 2. John Quincy Adams; 3. Washington; 4. Alexander the Great. In an instant the pupil would remember: 1. There are no *trees* for a thousand miles on the Union Pacific road; 2. John Quincy Adams died in the *House* of Representatives; 3. Washington was the first man that sat in the Presidential

chair; 4. Alexander the Great tamed the *horse* Bucephalus, and so on, indefinitely. By such association the names, facts, or theories become indelibly fixed in the memory, and with comparatively little effort, as compared with the ordinary methods of memorizing disconnected facts.

That this method is not more generally used may be due to the fact that the machinery may become too cumbrous to be useful.

Memory depends largely on the attention we bestow on a subject. We often hear it said of a careless pupil that

INFORMATION GOES

"in at one ear and out at the other." However that may be, every one is conscious of appearing at times to listen to a statement without in the least comprehending it, and perhaps without hearing it. This is for lack of attention. The more we attend to a thing the better we understand it, and the better we understand it the more likely we are to remember it, the better is the mind informed, and the more thoroughly is the memory improved. A man may be trained to remember a series of statements, not one of which he understands, by simply memorizing a

certain formula of words. A parrot can be trained to do the same thing to a more limited extent, but with the same degree of intelligence as to the meaning of the spoken words. Educate the man, train his mental powers, his reasoning faculties, and enable him to understand the meaning of the forms of words taught him, and the effort of the memory is much reduced and the power greatly enlarged.

Cultivating the memory is also like cultivating the muscular apparatus in another respect. If we direct the force of the mind upon one point—upon one species of information, thus exercising

ONE SET OF FACULTIES,

we may not affect the mind as a whole, but we rob the other faculties to strengthen those that are specially taxed. Thus the blacksmith develops the muscle of his right arm to a great degree by constant use of that member. All the muscles of his body remain, and may be healthy, but they have been robbed for the time being at least to supply the right arm.

The symmetrical man, then, in mind and body, is the one whose powers have all developed as nearly as may be in an equal degree, no part

receiving more than its due share of training or culture. Such men are very rare in the world, from the very diverse nature of their occupations and studies, but such men only are perfect physically and mentally.

Danger of Disobeying Orders.

I slept, and dreamed that life was Beauty;
I woke and found that life was Duty.
Was then thy dream a shadowy lie?
Toil on, sad heart, courageously,
And thou shalt find thy dream to be
A noonday light and truth to thee. — Hooper.

Be not diverted from your duty by any idle reflections the silly world may make upon you, for their censures are not in your power, and, consequently, should not be any part of your concern. — Epictetus.

T may seem to you very commonplace and trivial to judge of a man's character by the manner in which he performs the ordinary duties of life, and obeys the daily orders which he receives, and yet this embodies the very highest ideal of life and character. There may be nothing in it of a heroic or dazzling character, but neither is our common,

everyday life heroic. It was the man who was faithful in a few things that was made ruler over many things. It is the man who patiently plods along the dusty highway of life, doing the little daily acts of duty, uninteresting and unimportant though they be, who rises to greatest heights when the necessity arrives, and is able to captivate the world by his achievements.

He who knows how to obey best knows how to rule. When the war of the rebellion began, a plain looking, uninteresting man applied to the Governor of a Western State for some place where he could

MAKE HIMSELF USEFUL

in the hour of the country's need. The Governor looked him over, and put him at a desk in his office, and assigned him some ordinary clerical work. He plodded along, doing his work faithfully and unquestioning, until one day the Governor thought he was fitted for something more important, and gave him the command of a regiment, with which he marched to the front in the same sturdy, unambitious, plodding manner. One day came the news of a brilliant military success. Fort Donaldson had surrendered. Then came a succession of victories, and it became apparent

that the man had been found who could lead the Union forces to victory. Time rolled on, and Lee surrendered to the Governor's clerk, the regimental commander, the victorious General, U. S. Grant. The modest man who applied to the Governor of Illinois may have felt and known that he had in him the germ of the successful commander of large armies, yet he was content to obey, and could obey, and he became the organizer of victory. How many men would have refused the clerkship, feeling that they were worthy of something better, and have

THUS LOST ALL.

The form of reasoning with most men is: I don't exactly seem to be made up for a great railroad manager, therefore I am just the man to fill a cabinet office. But that order must be reversed, thus: I am not fit for a great railroad manager, therefore I may succeed as a train boy, or be able to do something in the peanut line. Look lower until you reach your true level, even if it be at the bottom, and there you may safely build, and surely hold what you gain, without disturbance or mortification.

It is very common for men, young men especially, to feel that they are placed at a great

disadvantage by finding themselves in a comparatively unimportant position of little influence, and as they see the world move on they think they are doing nothing to help it to move. For such George McDonald wrote: "Never fail to do that which lies next to your hand. Trust God to weave your little thread into the great web, though the pattern shows it not yet. The grand harvest of the ages shall come to its reaping, and the day shall broaden itself to a thousand years, and the thousand years shall show themselves a perfect and finished day."

OBEY YOUR ORDERS

to the very letter in whatever station you may be placed, and you will be doing your share in the world's work. The vast machinery is so carefully adjusted that though you may be but a mere cog, so to speak, in one of the small wheels, yet the breaking of that cog may produce disastrous results.

No matter if you are not able to realize the importance of your work to the general outcome, there is One over you who sees it, and who has placed you there for a good and a necessary purpose. Did you ever watch the working of the Jacquard loom? An ordinary workman sits in

front of the beam, which he keeps in motion without the exercise of any skill, and the whole labor is of the dullest and most monotonous character. If any man would become impatient with the sameness and insignificance of his duty, it would seem to be the man who manipulates this loom. But after a time the work is completed and turned over to the light, when it is seen to be a thing of beauty. His work had been arranged for him by another hand, a superior intellect, and he had been told to keep the beam in motion and to let the shuttle play. If he had

THOUGHT HIS WORK UNIMPORTANT,

and had neglected it, the beauty would have been marred, the fabric would have been worthless.

It is so in regard to the duties of life, and when the labor of all is gathered by the Superior Intelligence that has planned the whole, the world is advanced, mankind is elevated, God is served.

It is all important to know how a man has discharged the ordinary duties of life before deciding whether he is worthy to be entrusted with more important responsibilities. It once became my duty to select a man for the discharge of certain official duties requiring the utmost courage and discretion, and an absolute fidelity to duty.

The situation was so peculiar that a mistake in the selection would have been fraught with grave results, both to the government and to myself.

A formidable and corrupt ring which had been preying on the revenues of the government had been broken up, the guilty parties had been discovered, the corrupt official had been exposed, and it was absolutely necessary to secure a man to succeed him who would be fearless and true. After long search a man was found who seemed to possess the proper qualities, so far as his reputation among his business associates went. But wishing to go beyond this, I asked myself, what is

HIS DEMEANOR

towards his family; how has he discharged the ordinary, everyday duties of life; has he been so faithful over the few things as to qualify him to manage the many things which the new position would require? And only after I had seen for myself how faithful and cheerful he had been, and was, in a comparatively obscure position, was I willing to trust him. The sequel proved the selection to have been a most fortunate one. After fourteen years trial, the man is still a faithful and honored officer of the government. An inspiring and ever present sense of duty

is the crown of human character. Its presence makes weak men strong. Without it strong men become weak. Without it men yield to temptation in the hour of adversity. With it men otherwise weak are strengthened, for it becomes their guide, their inspiration, their beacon light, holding them firm in the right. To perform one's duty faithfully, to obey orders implicitly, is not a mere sentiment, as so many affect to believe; it is a pervading principle of life. It has been called

CONSCIENCE IN ACTION.

Without conscience there can be no lasting sense of duty, and without the latter there can be no success.

The sense of duty should be the one commanding element of character. A recognized duty should be performed at all hazards. The bank cashier who refused to surrender the combination of his safe lock, with the deadly revolver at his head, was a real hero. The pilot who held the boat to the shore until his passengers were all safe, though he was roasting to death himself, deserves a monument above many men who have won battles, and the world will one day learn to honor such humble heroes as they merit.

Washington was one of our brightest examples of a life actuated by a lofty sense of duty. He was modestly doubtful of his ability to discharge the duties of commander-in-chief of the revolutionary army. He accepted it because his people demanded it, but then only to avoid giving offence to his friends and lest his refusal might be misconstrued into an injury to the national cause. Through life he was devoted to duty regardless of popularity. A striking illustration of this is related of him in regard to the

JAY TREATY WITH GREAT BRITAIN,

which Washington was urged to reject, because it was unpopular with the people. So intense was the feeling that Washington was threatened, if he was not actually assailed, by an infuriated Washington City mob. But he considered it his duty to secure the ratification of the treaty, because his honor, as well as that of the country, was pledged in its favor. In remarking on the circumstances, he said that while he felt deeply conscious of the many expressions of confidence from his countrymen, he would not be deserving of them if he did not obey the dictates of his own conscience.

It is related of Gen. Grant that he was once called before the President and his Cabinet while

they were discussing the propriety of arresting Gen. Lee and trying him for treason. In the condition of the public mind at the time such a proceeding would have been very popular. Grant said that he had accepted the surrender of Lee and allowed him to go free, as his position as commander of the armies allowed him to do. "If you men break the terms of that capitulation, I resign my commission, feeling that my honor and that of my country would be violated by your action."

NELSON UNDERSTOOD THE MAGIC

of the little word, when just before the opening of the battle of Trafalgar he signaled to his fleet: "England expects every man to do his duty." And when he lay dying, he felt the sustaining power of the reflection that he had been faithful: "I have done my duty; I praise God for it."

The poet Whittier has immortalized in verse an incident of the celebrated dark day in May, 1780, in Connecticut, when the sunlight was obscured and men thought the last dread day had come. The law makers were assembled in the old State House, and when the darkness fell they trembled under their legislative robes.

"It is the Lord's great day! Let us adjourn,"
Some said; and then, as if with one accord,
All eyes were turned to Abraham Davenport.
He rose, slowly cleaving, with his steady voice,
The intolerable hush. "This well may be
The Day of Judgment which the world awaits;
But be it so or not, I only know
My present duty, and my Lord's command
To occupy till he come. So at the post
Where He hath set me in His providence,
I choose, for one, to meet Him face to face—
No faithless servant, frightened from my task,
But ready when the Lord of the harvest calls;
And therefore, with all reverence would I say,
Let God do His work—we will see to ours.
Bring in the candles." And they brought them in.

* * * * * * *

And there he stands, in memory, to this day,
Erect, self-poised, a rugged face half seen
Against the background of unnatural dark,
A witness to the ages, as they pass,
That simple duty hath no place for fear.

Duty is a grand motto for men, as well as for nations. The thought of it has led armies to victory, nerved explorers to scale mountains, cross seas, endure hardships, defy dangers, and what is oftentimes more difficult, it has sustained men to meet the little daily, hourly cares and

resposibilities which so often require more real heroism than to win battles.

The thirst for glory has sustained men, but not for long when the inspiration arising from a sense of duty was absent. But let us not shrink because our duties are insignificant and attract but little of the world's applause. It matters not. It is for each one of us to do his duty in that sphere of life where providence has placed us. To do so is the very highest aim in life, and from which we should be able to derive our greatest pleasure. Nothing else is so thoroughly satisfactory, in adversity or prosperity, and with a sense of duty done at the end of life we will have neither regrets nor disappointments.

HE WAS SENSIBLE,

patient, and just enough to be made a saint who said that "our whole duty lies, not in striving to be other than we are, but to be well what we are."

We do not have to seek long to find illustrations of the dangers of disobedience. We can scarcely take up a daily paper but we see an account of the loss of life and the destruction of property resulting from that cause. A brakeman on a railroad neglects to turn a switch, and a passenger train plunges into the

darkness and death which that slight omission has produced. The pilot neglects or refuses to observe the signal of an approaching steamer, and a collision carries hundreds of human beings to a watery grave. The draw of a railway bridge is left open in the face of an approaching train by a careless tender, and train and passengers go down into the abyss.

No employe is engaged on duties so humble that he can afford to neglect them without danger of serious loss. The boy who kindles the fires, by his carelessness has burned up the entire building. The stoker in the engine room has so managed his fires that the vessel has been

BLOWN TO ATOMS.

The man who selects the iron for a bridge allows a defective piece to pass his inspection, and the whole structure is thus rendered as weak as the defective point, and goes down under a precious load.

Duty also implies faith. We may not see the result of one act; in fact, we seldom do, unless the result is immediate and direct. Therefore duty is superior to consequences. If a man always stops to ask his superior why an order is given, he will find few willing to trust him.

The duty is ours, the consequences belong to him who made it our duty.

It is related of the commander of a besieged fort when he was called upon to surrender his post, that he invited the bearer of the summons to go with him to the top of the tower within the fort, where a sentinel was stationed as an outlook. The commander ordered this sentinel to leap from the tower into the courtyard far below, which he did on the instant, and was dashed to pieces. Turning to his enemy he said, "Behold how my soldiers obey. My garrison is composed of such men. Do your worst! We are all

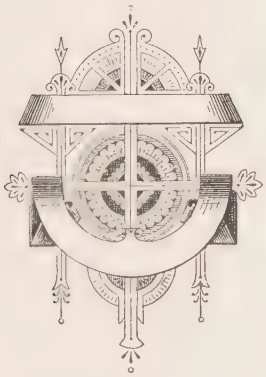
READY TO DIE,

but not to surrender!" The officer returned with the message and related what he had seen. The long and fruitless siege was raised, and the fort was held by its determined garrison. The faithful sentinel who sacrificed his life at the command of his officer might well have hesitated to obey an order which he could see meant certain death, and he could not see any resulting good. But he had been taught to obey, and his act of obedience was the salvation of the garrison.

I was landed from a steamer in the Upper Kanawha River one stormy night during the war,

and there I saw a soldier pacing back and forth in the road. I asked why he was there, and was told that he had been placed there to guard a pile of grain which had been removed some hours before. I called up the officer of the guard when I got to his quarters, and the man was at once relieved. That man was a good soldier. A lazy man, or a careless one, would have gone to his quarters without permission, and the result might have been disastrous, for he might have been there for some other purpose.

The duty of obedience cannot be too strongly impressed upon young men, for in proportion as they learn that duty so will their success be wherever they may be placed.



Oh! the joy
Of young ideas painted on the mind,
In the warm, glowing colors fancy spreads
On objects not yet known, when all is new,
And all is lovely. — HANNAH MORE.

Slow pass our days in childhood.
Every day seems like a century. — BRYANT.

THE complaint is often made by girls, that "boys have everything," in a tone which enables one to complete the sentence: "and girls have nothing." There is, of course, a great deal of exaggeration in this expression, but like most exaggerated statements, it has some foundation in truth. Most of the story books are intended

for boys; tell of boys' adventures; incite boys to emulate manly deeds and manly virtues; give a detail of games and employments for boys, and so on. Of these there are enough to fill a large library, while of books especially adapted to girls there are very few. The best of these, and the best of its kind that has been prepared for either sex, is a volume recently issued from the press of the Putnams, by Helen Campbell, entitled, "The American Girl's Home Book of Work and Play."

TO THE GIRL OF A GENERATION AGO,

anxious to learn, keen in the search for amusements, not spoiled by stilted notions of dignity and propriety which spoil so many of the girls of this day, such a book would have been a revelation. Shut up as they then necessarily were to such amusements as they could themselves invent, and debarred from employments that were thought unbecoming, they must have had but a sorry time to employ their leisure hours. Boys could enjoy the hunting and fishing, bathing and coasting, and a hundred other things which if a girl would have engaged in she would have been posted as a hoyden and a tomboy throughout the whole neighborhood. And yet the girls of that period have grown up into graceful and stately

matrons, mothers of families, and ornaments of happy homes in spite of their plaint that boys had everything in the days when they were young.

If there is to be a change in this respect so far as the furnishing of employment and amusement are concerned, let us hope that it may not have come too late, when there are no more girls to enjoy them, and when girls have given place to "misses" and "young ladies."

Be that as it may there is no longer a dearth of amusements or employments for girls and they need only to exert themselves and they can be amply accommodated, from the dressing of a doll to the

MAKING OF A LOAF OF BREAD.

In this chapter but little more can be done than to mention some of these amusements and light and appropriate employments, leading our young readers to make further research and study and learn more of their details.

Many of the plays extant are not indebted for their existence to any book record of them. They have come from we know not where. Like Topsy, they "jist growed." They were the delight of our grandmothers, who had them from their grandmothers. They are common to all countries and

to all times. Like some of the familiar nursery ballads, they came to England with the Saxons, and to America with the Mayflower, though if the Puritans brought over any pleasant games with them, they must have kept them carefully under lock and key, for they neither enjoyed them nor allowed their children to do so.

At all events they are here, and here they will stay while we have children to enjoy them, which I hope will be some time yet, if foolish notions do not get into their heads that it is not just the thing to be a child.

To enumerate all the games for girls of younger growth would be to fill a volume, and I prefer to pass to mention

LIGHT EMPLOYMENTS

that are both pleasant and profitable, and at the same time entirely proper to be engaged in by young ladies, or as I prefer to call them here, girls.

Sewing is an employment that is always open to them, and probably for that reason it has been left almost exclusively to woman to follow. The fact that women were willing to do such work and at starvation wages; that they were able to do nothing else, and it was that or starvation, has

done more to degrade woman in the labor market, and cheapen her work than anything else. When they shall make themselves able to work in a variety of fields, they will be better qualified to command better prices.

But for girls the sewing will probably be nothing more serious than the making of doll's dresses, the preparation of tidy articles as gifts and tokens of friendship, as scent bags, bureau covers, pincushions, crocheted mats, wall baskets, and the like. Then there are a myriad of forms, both useful and ornamental, into which tissue paper, cardboard and leather may be manipulated, according to rules which are easily learned. The manufacture of

WAX FLOWERS AND FRUITS

is an occupation in which much artistic talent can be employed with pleasure and profit, and the arrangement of shells, mosses and pine cones can be made highly ornamental. For all these articles a market may be found if the makers desire to make a profit of their knowledge and skill, as many of them no doubt will.

Wood carving has now come to be a very popular art, and while it may be learned from printed instructions by an apt scholar, it may be

more readily acquired under the instructions of a skilled teacher, and such an one may now be found in any of our larger schools, and in all our larger towns. Skill in the use of tools is soon acquired, and the rest is largely a matter of taste and fondness for the work, combined with adaptability to that kind of employment. Much of the fine carving that is displayed in our shop windows is the work of girls, who began the lessons and the practice for pleasure, and have continued it for profitable employment.

There is nothing in the practice of wood carving that is more

DIFFICULT AND LABORIOUS

than drawing, and to acquire proficiency in it only requires patience, and the gift of continuance. To work at it for a few days, and then leave it for something else, will never accomplish satisfactory results, any more than it will in the prosecution of any other pursuit. As in drawing, painting, or, in fact, anything, the best way, the only way, is always to do one's best, and to keep at it.

Wood carving is admirably adapted for the occupation of leisure hours. Half an hour each day, if well employed, will soon show satis-

factory progress, and encourage one to continue. In every home where there are girls a suitable place can be found for a workshop. A corner of the playroom, an outhouse, or, in an emergency, a place in a chamber, may serve to put up the workbench, which need not take up more than five or six square feet—say three feet by two. But this is running too much to detail, for which I have not space.

Another pleasant occupation for girls may be found in

LIGHT GARDENING,

or fruit culture, such as the raising of strawberries, and other small fruits. Few investments of intelligent labor pay larger dividends of money and pleasure than this. It is a very easy matter to get the use of a small lot of ground, either a part of the home premises or adjacent thereto, on which to try the experiment. Say that one-eighth of an acre is chosen, which will be found ample in size for a beginning. On this may be planted about 1,800 strawberry plants, 250 currant, 375 raspberry, or about the same number of blackberry bushes. But little capital is needed beyond that necessary to purchase the plants, and all the work, excepting the first breaking up of

the ground, may be very readily done by a girl of fourteen. If the season be fairly favorable, the profit on such a venture ought to be from fifty to seventy dollars for the strawberries, from sixty to eighty for the currants, and about the same for the raspberries and blackberries, according to the market where they are sold, which is a very fair income for a few weeks of light and pleasant work. How many poor women work early and late through the whole year for little more! In the

CULTIVATION OF FLOWERS

girls should be perfectly at home, and in fact it seems to be their natural work, so nearly are they allied to flowers in their beauty and purity. As in the culture of small fruits, the work is light, though the knowledge required is far more thorough and diverse. A familiarity with the nature and habits of flowers is necessary to their successful culture, but the acquisition of such knowledge is always a pleasure.

A greenhouse is a great advantage and adds much to the economy of floriculture, though it is not absolutely necessary. And as every girl, if she knew the pleasure to be gained by it, would have a little plot of ground; if she knew th

profit in it, she would enlarge that plot, and while increasing her stock of spending money would at the same time add largely to her stock of health to carry her through life.

Here is an excellent field for the display of artistic taste, both in the arrangement of the beds and in the mixing of colors in each. Fine effects may be produced in colors in this way, which will add greatly to the beauty of a garden or lawn. A fondness for flowers acquired in this way will naturally lead to a desire to turn that knowledge to profit, in which case a greenhouse will be found to be a great help. It is strange that so few women are engaged in the

BUSINESS OF FLORICULTURE,

and yet will complain that the industries are closed against their sex.

Parlor gardening comes in the same category, and the same reasons for engaging in floriculture will apply with almost equal force to it. Almost every one is desirous to have their house adorned with flowers, but few possess sufficient knowledge to succeed at it. Like most other good things in this world, beautiful flowers, especially within doors and in the winter season, do not flourish without intelligent care and attention. Girls will

find much pleasure in the study and practice of parlor gardening, and will never miss the time devoted to it. The pleasure will be in having home adornment far beyond the power of the upholsterer's art to furnish.

The rearing of poultry is light and profitable work, which girls may engage in as successfully as boys or men, and they need never fear that the market will become overstocked, or that prices will not be remunerative. Quite a number of women are now giving attention to this business, and with good results, some of them devoting their entire time to it, and proving it to be a reliable

SOURCE OF INCOME.

It has been often demonstrated by actual results that the profit on each hen of the poultry yard is fully one dollar a year for the eggs alone, and the sale of chickens is still more profitable.

There is no good reason why the care of honey bees should not be largely entrusted to girls. It requires a good deal of nerve and intelligence during a part of the year, but for the most of the time the bees want to be let alone. As in the cultivation of flowers, however, the nature and habits of the bee must become thoroughly under-

stood. The experiment can be begun with one or two hives, from which the habits of the bee can be observed, and as knowledge is gained, additions can be made and the profit begin to be reaped.

Silk culture is one of the lightest and simplest of industries, and one to which Americans are turning their attention more and more every year. It needs but a small amount of capital to begin with, very little machinery, and none at all in fact if the cocoons alone are marketed. When a girl's natural antipathy to a worm is overcome, the occupation will be found to be exceedingly interesting, the progress from the egg to the cocoon being through a succession of curious changes, which one never tires in studying.

DESIGNING AND DRAWING

are now so universally recognized as occupations for girls that it is not necessary to more than mention them here, especially as allusion has been already made to them in another chapter.

The crowning accomplishment, however, for girls is the art of cooking, and in fact housekeeping in general. That it has been classed last in this list must not be taken as an indication that the writer thinks it the least important. It is in

fact the most important. The majority of girls look forward to the time when they will be the heads of households, the jewels of happy homes, and the mothers of children, and the majority become such, at least nominally. But how few of them, comparatively, try to fit themselves for the discharge of those duties.

Thousands of our young ladies of to-day are accomplished pianists, can sing delightfully, and draw with the skill of an artist, who are as ignorant of the most

ORDINARY WORK OF THE KITCHEN

as they are of the whereabouts of the sibylline leaves. How much of the dissatisfaction and unhappiness in married life would be avoided if young wives brought to their new duties a thorough qualification for their discharge. How many of the divorces which are demoralizing our society and destroying the integrity and purity of the family might have been avoided if the wife had been qualified to do her whole duty.

It may not be necessary for the wife to be the drudge of the kitchen. Her husband may be able to relieve her of that task. But the feeling that she is able and willing to do it; that she is not utterly dependant on her servant; that the sud-

den departure of a servant will not in the least disturb the serenity of the household, will impart a pleasure that will be sought for in vain in the music of the piano, or the finest art drawing. A husband may be never so fond of the latter, but he prefers a good meal and a tidy home after the labors of the day.

It will not be many years in this country before our common schools will teach girls how to cook, and when they do so, they will add more to the sum of human enjoyment than all the lighter accomplishments can give.

If what has been said in this chapter shall have the effect of opening up before my young readers of the gentler sex the world of possibilities for usefulness, which are also sources of lasting pleasure, and influence them to pursue the subject further, the object of the writer will be fully accomplished.

Home Hygiene.

Joy, temperance, and repose,
Slam the door on the doctor's nose. — Longfellow.

Be sober and temperate and you will be healthy. — Franklin.

He who has health has hope and he who has hope has everything. — Arabian Proverb.

For life is not to live but to be well. — Martial.

WHILE right living, temperate and regular habits, careful attention to the rules of health will go a great way toward avoiding disease, building up a good constitution, and prolonging life, many ailments are inherited, and many are the result of imprudence in early life, which must be paid for later by permanent disease or liability to illness. It will be long before all men and

women will so regulate their lives that disease will be unknown, and remedies unnecessary. Until that time comes, therefore, it will be well to be prepared for sickness, and as far as possible, qualified to treat it in its earlier and simpler forms, or until a physician can be summoned.

Many severe spells of sickness may be avoided if the early symptoms are detected and proper remedies applied. For this reason the head of the family, and

ESPECIALLY THE MOTHER

should to a certain extent be qualified to act as a physician in the family at least to the extent of treating slight cases which are so apt to occur among children, especially if living in the country where considerable time must elapse before a regular physician can be summoned. No one should attempt to treat serious cases, except as it cannot be avoided, as they may do far more harm than good, but a good physician should be called in as soon as possible. And the same physician should be retained so long as his service is satisfactory, because he becomes familiar with the peculiarities of the different members of the family, and of the peculiar modes of treatment each requires.

To be able to treat ordinary ailments certain remedies should be at hand, and the following assortment is recommended by an experienced practitioner: A vial each of sweet oil, hartshorn, spirits of camphor, tincture of arnica, soap liniment, sirup of ipecac, tincture of ginger, sweet spirits of nitre, essence of peppermint, a cholera mixture consisting of equal parts of laudanum, spirits of camphor, tincture of capsicum, and tincture of rhubarb, and a flask of good liquor. Besides these there should be a package of pure ground mustard, of chlorate of potash, of carbonate of magnesia, or soda, two of flaxseed, one ground and one whole, and a few seidlitz powders. Each of these packages should be kept in a close vessel and all should be

DISTINCTLY LABELED.

There should also be a piece of sticking plaster, a roll of soft rags for bandages or plasters, a little cotton wool, a spool of stout thread, a soft sponge, a pair of sharp scissors, a graduated medicine glass, and a dropping tube. These should all be kept in a chest provided for the purpose. The half of these articles may not be needed in a life time, but if they should be needed they will be wanted instantly, and should be on hand.

A list of the most ordinary ailments is here given in which a regular physician may not be needed, or needed only occasionally. But an illness very slight in the beginning may increase to the dangerous stage, and it must be understood that the advice below is only intended until

THE DOCTOR COMES.

Ague. — During the cold stage the patient should be kept in bed, warmly covered, and efforts should be made to restore warmth by rubbing the hands and feet, by hot drinks such as tea, coffee, barley water, etc. During the hot stage, after relief by perspiration, check the perspiration by gradually sponging the body with lukewarm water, wiping the sweat off with hot flannels; then to relieve the thirst give cold drinks. Protect the patient from draughts of cold air. The use of quinine should only be resorted to under advice of a physician.

Boils. — These may be stopped in the very outset by gently rubbing them five minutes, two or three times a day, with the end of the finger dipped in camphor liniment. It is a mistake to suppose that boils are healthy. They impoverish instead of purifying the blood, and the more quickly they can be cured the better. If not

prevented by the treatment suggested above, then it should be brought to a head, and suppurate as speedily as possible. This can be hastened by a hot bath or a vapor bath. It should be treated with a poultice of ground flax-seed, Indian meal, or anything that will retain heat or moisture. Change the poultice as it becomes dry. A poultice of soap and sugar is efficacious, but more painful than the other. It should be spread upon a soft rag, leaving a hole in the centre to allow the escape of the matter. If there is any appearance of a boil

BECOMING A CARBUNCLE,

which will be indicated by a darker color, increased hardness, and a tendency to grow without coming to a head, fever and exhaustion, and a want of free evacuation after opening, it should not be trifled with, but a doctor should be called.

COLDS.—Avoid unnecessary exposure by means of proper clothing about the neck and chest. Having "caught cold," however, let the patient cover himself up warmly in bed, with a bottle of hot water at the feet to induce perspiration. The essential thing is to induce perspiration. For a cold in the head, an excellent remedy is to smell of camphor continuously for several hours, or

until relief is obtained. This will seldom fail to cure a recently contracted cold.

Cramps. — A hot bath, or in lieu of that a sponge bath with water as hot as it can be borne is good. Smelling salts and a little weak whisky and water will be found beneficial. Put the patient into a warmed bed and let him rest. If the cramp is confined to a limb, use plenty of friction, and extend the muscles during the spasm.

Corns. — Throw away the boots or shoes that have

PRODUCED THE CORNS.

Put on a small poultice during the night. In day time cover with a rag saturated with lard or glycerine. Be careful in paring corns. It is better to merely pick off the head with a knife, or with the nails of the thumb and finger.

Diarrhœa. — In all ordinary cases the "cholera mixture" referred to in the above list will be found very efficient. Dose: fifteen or twenty drops for an adult, in a table spoonful or two of water, and repeated at intervals of two or three hours as may be needed. To children a smaller dose should be given, say for a child of twelve years, one-half the dose for an adult, and for one

of six years, one-third. In cases of the disease in children under five years, in old people, or in severe cases, a physician should be called, and also in other cases where the mixture fails, or where the disease is accompanied with much fever. Quiet and rest are very important. The diet should be confined to dry toast, tea without milk, rice pudding or arrowroot, but no meat or vegetables.

EARACHE. — A drop of warm sweet oil in the ear will generally give relief. The heart of a warm, roasted onion put into

THE AFFECTED EAR,

and confined there by a bandage to retain the heat, has been found useful. If the trouble is of frequent occurrence, consult a physician.

HEADACHE. — This arises from such a variety of causes that an equal variety of remedies is needed. They may be generally classed as nervous headache, sick headache, and neuralgic headache. The first generally arises from fatigue or excitement, and will mostly yield to a strong cup of tea and a hot foot-bath, the cause being removed. Cold applications to the head, and rest in a dark, well ventilated room, may also be resorted to with benefit. Sick headache comes

from indigestion or some other disorder of the stomach, and may be caused by error in diet, and in cold or fatigue impairing the functions of the stomach temporarily. In nine-tenths of the cases it may be cured, or greatly relieved, in a few minutes by swallowing as much red pepper as will lie on the point of a pen knife, in two table spoonfuls of water. If the feet are cold, put them in warm water, and afterwards wrap them up warm. Lie down, keep the body warm, and put a mustard plaster over the stomach. Applications to the head are of little use.

NEURALGIC HEADACHE

occurs on one side of the head, frequently affecting one eye, causing it to overflow with tears at times. Hot applications to the head are beneficial. The red pepper, as recommended above, also sometimes acts like a charm. If mustard is used, it should be applied at the seat of the pain, not in the eye of course, but on the temple, side of the head, or back of the neck. This kind of headache indicates debility and a low condition of the system, and the advice of a physician should be taken. The dull, wearisome, sickening pain across the brows that frequently accompanies a cold in the head arises from the accumula-

tion of mucus in the nasal cavity, and will yield to the camphor treatment mentioned for colds. No external application will be of any benefit.

HIVES. — This ailment usually arises from irritation of the digestive organs, caused by the presence of undigested food. The proper remedy is an emetic to empty the stomach. One or two teaspoonfuls of sirup of ipecac every fifteen minutes until it acts will produce the desired effect. After the vomiting, if any irritation remains, it may generally be removed by a Seidlitz powder.

SORE THROAT. — In slight cases rubbing the outside of the throat with

A LINIMENT

of one part of hartshorn and three parts of sweet oil suffices. A gargle of a teaspoonful of chlorate of potash in a glass of water used once in two hours will be found useful, or a dessert spoonful of the mixture may be swallowed, if the patient is unable to gargle. Where there is a tickling sensation giving rise to a hacking cough, it may be generally allayed by letting small pieces of gum arabic or extract of licorice dissolve on the tongue. In cases of severe sore throat, accompanied by fever and exhaustion, a doctor should be called.

Stomach-Ache. — In infants this is usually caused by "wind" in the stomach, and medicine is seldom required. Before trying medicine rub the parts gently and steadily, and carry the infant on the shoulder so that the stomach will press against it. In older children the ache often arises from eating green fruit. A dose or two of sirup of ipecac will generally be sufficient. If it arises from other causes, it may be relieved by a few drops (five to ten for an adult, and in proportion for children) of essence of peppermint on a lump of sugar. At the same time try a mustard plaster, or flannels wrung out of hot water, over the stomach and bowels. In all cases keep the stomach warm and quiet.

Toothache. — Consult a good dentist as soon as possible.

IF THE TOOTH IS HOLLOW,

temporary relief may be obtained by inserting a piece of cotton wool saturated with camphor, or wet with a drop of oil of cloves or creosote. Be careful not to let the latter touch the tongue or gums, which would be made sore by the contact. If there is no cavity, a small mustard plaster or hot applications may be applied on the face over the seat of the pain. Avoid

patent nostrums for this or any other ailment.

Vomiting. — When this is continued and the stomach will retain nothing, and the doctor is not at hand, keep the patient on his back in bed. Give no food for some hours, and then only in small quantities and at long intervals. Milk and limewater may be retained when nothing else will. A mustard plaster will also quiet the stomach. The white of an egg beaten up with a teaspoonful of brandy given in small quantities at a time, or a little arrowroot will be found beneficial.

Generally in sickness almost as much depends on

GOOD NURSING

as on good doctoring, and every child should be trained to understand the duties of a sickroom, and especially the use of the simple remedies named above, and the method of preparing the proper food and drinks for the sick, and how to keep the sickroom properly ventilated.

Poisons and Antidotes. — When a poison has been swallowed, there is but one exception to the rule that an emetic should be instantly given, and the poison diluted with copious draughts of lukewarm water. The exception is sulphuric

acid. Anything at hand that will produce vomiting will answer. A teaspoonful of ground mustard or a table spoonful of salt stirred into a cupful of lukewarm water will prove a safe, ready, and efficient emetic. Its action should be assisted by drinking copiously of warm water, which will also serve to dilute the poison. In case of poisoning by sulphuric acid, water must be avoided, as it evolves a degree of heat equal to and sometimes greater than that of boiling water. Vomiting in such cases must be induced by tickling the inside of the throat with a feather, or by thrusting the finger into the throat.

EMETICS MUST NOT

be alone relied on. Where special antidotes are known and at hand they should be given at once.

The stings of bees, wasps, etc., may be alleviated by the application of hartshorn. Ordinary mud applied to the parts will also be found beneficial. Anointing the body with sweet oil is said to be a preventive of mosquito, flea, and bed bug bites.

Prussic acid and strychnine act so promptly that antidotes are of little use. In case of the former, after emetics inhalation of ammonia is beneficial. In the latter, strong green tea, tea

made of tobacco, and lobelia are recommended.

Opium poisoning, after vomiting, may be treated with strong black coffee, and artificial means of keeping the patient awake.

No antidote is known for poisonous mushrooms. Emetics and strong physics must be resorted to.

Arsenic and its various compounds finds its best antidote in oil or melted fat, followed by magnesia water or limewater in large quantities until vomiting is produced.

For antimony poisoning give astringent drinks, as decoctions of oak bark, nut galls, etc.

For corrosive sublimate beat up the whites of a dozen eggs in two quarts of water, and let the patient swallow as much as he can every three minutes. Milk is also good. Flour and water, and even warm water, may also be useful.

For nitrate of silver drink warm water until vomiting ensues.

Oxalic acid requires pounded chalk or strong soap suds.

Phosphorus requires magnesia, with copious drinks of gum arabic water.

Potash, lye, saleratus, ammonia, and most other alkali poisons, may be neutralized by any

acid, as vinegar, lemon juice, tomato juice, or any non-poisonous oil, as castor oil, sweet oil, linseed oil, and melted fat.

For copper poisoning whites of egg and milk are best. Avoid acids.

For mineral acids alkalies are the proper antidotes. For nitric and oxalic acids lime water or chalk, and carbonate of magnesia or calcined magnesia. For sulphuric, muriatic, or almost any other strong acid, lime, potash or soda may be used according to convenience. Baking soda is useful and always at hand. In the absence of these, strong soap suds may be used.

This subject might be extended indefinitely, but only the most ordinary ailments and poisons have been alluded to. Every family should make a study of the subject as emergencies are always apt to arise in which such knowledge is needed, and when the necessity arises there is no time to hunt up the proper remedies.

Things Worth Knowing.

He that doth not know those things that are of use to him to know is but an ignorant man, whatever he may know besides.

—Tillotson.

FEW people realize the vast amount of labor necessary to the production of a simple statement of fact which may be read at a thoughtless glance, in a three line item in a newspaper. For example, we read that

"The slope of rivers flowing into the Mississippi from the East is about three inches per mile; and of those from the West about six inches."

The statement is embraced in twenty-six words, and three lines, which may be read at a

glance, yet to be able to make the statement reliably required a special education on the part of those who ascertained the fact, and afterwards weeks of exploration, mathematical calculation, and measurement.

We read that "the population of the United States on the first day of June, 1880, was 50,155,783." Looking beyond the item of important information, and we learn that it required the intelligent labor of more than twelve thousand men for one month, equal to about three hundred and sixty thousand days' work of one man.

IF THE GENERAL READER

of books and newspapers will bear this fact in mind, he will not only derive greater profit from his reading, but will have a higher respect for those who prepare such facts, and more forbearance when it is discovered that an error will occasionally slip into published statements.

The effort has been made to group a few pages of such useful facts in this place, gleaned from sources believed to be strictly reliable, a knowledge of which cannot fail to be of service to the reader no matter what may be his occupation.

The average descent of the Ohio River from Pittsburgh to the Mississippi, 975 miles, is 5.2

inches per mile, and that of the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico, 1,180 miles, 2.8 inches per mile.

The longest river in the world is the Missouri, which, from its rise in the Rocky Mountains to the Gulf of Mexico, is 4,194 miles in length. The Amazon, in South America, 3,944 miles; the Hoang Ho, in China, 3,000 miles; the Murray River, in Australia, 3,000 miles; the Obi, in Siberia, 2,800 miles; the Nile in Egypt, 2,700 miles, and the Mississippi, from Lake Itaska to the Gulf of Mexico, 2,616 miles, are the next in order of length.

THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN IN THE WORLD

is a peak of the Himalayas, Mt. Everest, in India, which is 29,002 feet, or nearly six miles high.

The highest mountain in Europe is Mont Blanc, in Switzerland, which is 15,572 feet in height.

The highest mountain peak in the United States is Great Peak, in New Mexico, which is 19,788 feet.

In 1880 there were 971 daily newspapers in the United States, with a daily circulation of 3,566,395. Of periodicals other than daily there were 10,343, the aggregate circulation per issue of which was 28,213,291.

The population of the United States at the last census was 50,155,783, of which 25,518,820 were males, and 24,636,963 were females; 43,475,840 were natives, and 6,679,943 foreign born; 43,402,970 were white, 6,580,793 were colored; 105,465 were Chinese, 148 Japanese, and 66,407 Indians. This latter amount does not include the Indian tribes.

The centre of population in the United States in 1880 was in Kentucky, one mile from the south bank of the Ohio River, and one and one-half miles southeast of the village of Taylorsville.

Heavy cannonading may be heard a distance of 60 miles.

Ice two inches thick will bear infantry; 4 inches thick, cavalry; 6 inches thick, heavy field guns; and if 8 inches thick, it will bear a weight of 1,000 pounds to the square foot.

A fall of one inch per mile in rivers will produce a current.

At a depth of 45 feet the temperature of the earth is uniform throughout the year.

Gold-leaf is 1-280 thousandth part of an inch in thickness.

The Coliseum at Rome accommodated 87,000 persons; St. Peters, Rome, 58,000; the Cathedral,

Milan, 40,000; St. Paul's, London, 31,000; Notre Dame, Paris, 21,500; Mormon Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, 10,000; Gilmore's Garden, New York, 8,443; Music Hall, Cincinnati, 4,824; City Hall, Columbus, Ohio, 3,000; Music Hall, Boston, 2,585; Grand Opera House, New Orleans, 2,052.

It is estimated from the most reliable data that the entire production of gold and silver of the world from the earliest period to 1880 was $25,383,375,000, of which $14,068,375,000 was gold and $11,315,000,000 was silver. The production of this country is estimated at $1,175,000,000, and of Mexico, $2,730,500.

COAL PRODUCTION.

The United States has 192,000 square miles of coal land; Russia has 30,000; Australia, 24,850; Nova Scotia, 18,000; Great Britain, 11,900; Japan, 5,000; Spain, 3,501; France, 2,000; India, 2,000; Austria, 1,800, and Germany, 1,780. In 1880 the United States produced 66,200,934 tons, which was about equal to the production of Great Britain in 1876.

According to the census of 1880, the principal agricultural productions of this country were as follows: Indian corn, 1,754,861,535 bushels; wheat, 459,479,505; oats, 407,858,999; barley,

44,113,495; rye, 19,831,495; buckwheat, 11,817,-327; cotton, 5,737,257 bales.

In Europe, by the latest returns available, the total product of the several crops was as follows: Wheat, 364,194,186 bushels; rye, 21,170,100; barley, 34,441,400; oats, 406,394,000; potatoes, 170,092,000.

The total sugar crop of the world in 1879 was 10,386,880,000 pounds.

The consumption of sugar and molasses in the United States in 1880 was 819,341 gross tons of sugar, and 45,299,184 gallons of molasses. Of the sugar consumed, 730,519 tons were imported, and 88,822 tons were domestic. Of the molasses, 33,099,184 gallons were imported, and 12,200,000 gallons were domestic.

The tobacco production of the United States in 1880 was 472,661,159 pounds.

The production of pig iron in the same year was 4,295, 414 tons.

RAILROADS OF THE UNITED STATES.

At the close of 1882 there were 113,329 miles of completed railroads, of which 11,591 miles were built during that year. The total cost of these roads and their equipments was $5,930,-409,624; their capital stock is $3,456,078,196;

their funded debt, $3,184,415,201; gross earnings in 1882, $770,256,762; net earnings, $280,316,669; dividends paid, $102,031,434.

More than one million dollars a day for the three years of 1880, 1881, and 1882 were expended in railroad construction.

The total number of passengers transported on all the railroads of the United States in 1882 was 289,190,783, a number nearly equal to six times our total population in 1880. The total movement of passengers equalled 6,834,048,765 persons carried one mile at an average charge of 2.86 cents per mile per passenger.

The total freight carried in 1882 equalled 39,302,209,249 tons carried one mile, at an average charge of 1.2 cents per ton per mile.

The aggregate value of all the freight so carried in 1882 was $22,011,533,760. Deducting from this for freights duplicated by different roads in their reports, and the real value is estimated at

$15,000,000,000,

equal to $300 a head of the population of the country.

In 1830 there were but 23 miles of railroad in operation in this country; in 1840 there were 2,818 miles; in 1850, 9,021 miles; in 1860, 30,635;

in 1870, 52,914, and in 1880, 91,944. More miles of railroad were built in 1882 than were in operation in the United States in 1851.

The total liabilities of railroads at the close of 1882 were $61,342 per mile.

The rule for estimating the value of freights in use in New York by the railroads and the canal is, products of the forest, $20 per ton; products of animals, $150; vegetable food, $40; other agricultural products, $40; manufactures, $25; merchandise, $250, and other articles, $20 per ton.

The total length of railway lines in all other countries in 1880 was 125,200 miles, of which Germany had 21,037 miles; Great Britain and Ireland, 17,696; France, 15,287; Russia, 13,571; Austria-Hungary, 11,471; British India, 8,615; Canada, 6,891; Italy, 4,999; Spain, 4,264; Sweden, 3,260; Belgium, 3,324; Australia, 4,338; no other country equalling 2,000 miles.

ILLITERACY.

Of the total population in 1880, ten years of age and upwards, 6,239,958, or 17 per cent., could not write. Of these 2,255,460, or 8.7 per cent., were native whites; 763,620, or 12 per cent., were foreign whites, and 3,220,878, or 70 per cent., were colored.

Of the population of the United States in 1880 17 per cent. could not read or write; in Bavaria the percentage is 7; in Japan, 10; in Germany, 12; in Scotland, 16; in the Netherlands, 18; in Belgium, 30; in France, 30; in England, 33; in Ireland, 46 ; in Austria, 49; in China, 50; in Hungary, 51; in Italy, 73; in Spain, 80; in Greece, 82; in Mexico, 93; in India, 95.

DEPENDENT AND DELINQUENT CLASSES.

The census of 1880 shows that there were 91,997 insane, 76,895 idiots, 48,928 blind, 33,878 deaf mutes, 88,665 paupers, 59,255 prisoners in confinement. Of the prisoners 54,186 were males, and 5,069 females; 46,338 were native, and 12,914 foreign; 42,294 were white, and 16,961 colored.

Of the insane, 44,408 were males, and 47,589 females; 65,651 were native, and 26,346 foreign; 85,840 were white, and 6,157 colored.

Of the idiotic, 45,309 were males, and 31,586 females; 72,888 native, and 4,007 foreign; 67,316 white, and 9,579 colored.

Of the blind, 26,748 were males, and 22,180 females; 40,599 were natives, and 8,329 foreign; 41,278 were white, and 7,650 colored.

Of the deaf-mutes, 18,567 were males, and 15,311 females; 30,057 were natives, and 3,371

foreign; 30,661 were white, and 3,217 colored.

Of the paupers who were inmates of almshouses (67,067) 35,952 were males, and 31,115 females: 44,106 were natives, and 22,961 foreign; 61,310 white, and 5,757 colored.

The expenditure for schools in 1880 was $80,732,838.

There were 59,594 students in the colleges and universities of the country in 1880.

The value of grounds, buildings and apparatus in the universities and colleges is $39,623,424.

Their income from productive funds was $3,014,048.

The number of such institutions in 1880 was 364, and the number of instructors was 4,160.

There were 142 Theological Seminaries, with 633 professors and 5,243 students.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In the business transactions of all the National Banks of the United States in 1881, 95.13 per cent. were in checks and drafts, 4,06 per cent. were in paper currency, 0.16 per cent. were in silver coin, and 0.65 per cent. in gold coin.

The total coinage of the United States mint from 1793 to 1881, inclusive, was $1,545,508,866,

of which $1,211,837,186 was gold, $329,983,408 silver, and $13,688,277 minor coins.

The total popular vote at the Presidential election in 1880 was 9,204,428, of which James A. Garfield received 48.26 per cent., Winfield S. Hancock 48.25 per cent., James B. Weaver 3.33 per cent., and scattering 0.13 per cent.

SALARIES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICERS.

The following are the salaries of some of the principal officers of the government:

President, $50,000 a year; members of the Cabinet, $8,000; Chief Justice, $10,500; Associate Justices, $10,000; Circuit Court Judges, $6,000; the Ministers to France, Germany, Great Britain, and Russia, $17,500 each; to Austria, Brazil, China, Italy, Japan, Mexico, and Spain, $12,000 each; to Central America, Chili, and Peru, $10,000, and to Belgium, Colombia, Sandwich Islands, Hayti, Netherlands, Sweden and Norway, Turkey, and Venezuela, $7,500; the General of the army, $13,500; Lieutenant General, $11,000; Major General, $7,500, with 10 per cent. additional for each five years' service up to twenty years' service; Brigadier General, $5,500, with same addition; Admiral in the army, $13,000; Vice Admiral, $9,000 at sea, and $6,000 on shore; Rear Admi-

ral, $6,000 and $5,000; Commodore, $5,000 and $4,000.

The salaries of the Governors of the States are as follows:

SALARIES OF GOVERNORS.

Alabama, $3,000; Arkansas, $3,000; California, $6,000; Colorado, $3,000; Connecticut, $2,000; Delaware, $2,000; Florida, $3,500; Georgia, $3,000; Illinois, $6,000; Indiana, $5,000; Iowa, $3,000; Kansas, $3,000; Kentucky, $5,000; Louisiana, $4,000; Maine, $2,000; Maryland, $4,500; Massachusetts, $5,000; Michigan, $1,000; Minnesota, $3,800; Mississippi, $4,000; Nebraska, $2,500; Nevada, $6,000; New Hampshire, $1,000; New Jersey, $5,000; New York $10,000 and house; North Carolina, $3,000; Ohio, $4,000; Oregon, $4,500; Pennsylvania, $10,000; Rhode Island $1,000; South Carolina, $3,500; Tennessee, $4,000; Texas, $4,000; Vermont, $1,000; Virginia, $5,000; West Virginia, $2,700; Wisconsin, $5,000, and the Governors of the Territories, $2,600 each.

An excellent cement for china is made by a mixture of curd of milk, dried and powdered, ten ounces; quick lime, one ounce; camphor, two drachms. Mix, and keep in closely stopped

bottles. When used, a portion is to be mixed with a little water into a paste. This preparation is largely sold by peddlers, and its ingredients are considered a great mystery.

For cisterns and water casks a cement may be made of eight parts of melted glue and four parts of linseed oil, boiled into a varnish with litharge, which will harden in about forty-eight hours and render the joints of wooden cisterns and water casks to which it is applied both air and water tight.

Indelible ink for marking linen may be made of one part of nitrate of silver, six parts of water and one of gum.

The Work Basket.

The mother, wi' her needle and her shears,
Gars auld claes look amaist as weel's the new.

—Burns.

We sacrifice to dress till household joys
And comforts cease. Dress drains our cellars dry,
And keeps our larders lean. Puts out our fires,
And introduces hunger, frost, and woe,
Where peace and hospitality might reign.

—Cowper.

TO be well dressed it is by no means necessary to be richly clad in costly material, nor in gaudy styles and colors. On the contrary, that style of apparel often serves but to attract attention to an ungainly form, ill fitting garments, and inharmonious colors. True, there is a vast difference in persons in this respect. Every one has noticed ladies clad in costly raiment, bedizened

with jewelry, who excited only pity or derision for the bad taste displayed. On the other hand, there are ladies who, though clad in calico and wearing a single flower as an ornament, have the bearing of queens among women, and are admired above their more costly attired neighbors.

How to dress correctly is a fine art which, while coming to some almost by nature, is only acquired by others after long and persistent study. There are ladies in every community, of ample means, who are their own dress makers, and who are

THE BEST DRESSED

ladies in the community. That the art of dressing may be acquired there can be no doubt. This is not the place, nor is mine the pen, to tell how it may be acquired. But it may not be amiss to offer some suggestions in regard to that part of woman's work which relates to matters of dress and similar household duties.

It is a high encomium to be able to say of any woman, "she can make anything for the dress of the household that is to be made." Some years ago the writer was present at a social gathering where were present the wives of the President of the United States and of several of the members

of the diplomatic corps stationed at the nation's capital. The latter represented old aristocratic and noble families of Europe, to whom household cares and duties were practically unknown. In the course of conversation the President's wife remarked that she formerly made her husband's garments with her own hands. The high breeding of the titled guests was not proof against the surprise which the remark created. And yet it was doubly creditable: creditable because it was true, and because the possessor of such

AN ACCOMPLISHMENT

had the courage, as the world goes, to make the avowal in such a presence.

Regarding the subject from the standpoint of economy and convenience, skill with the needle is a most valuable endowment in the housekeeper. And in this I refer more especially to what is understood by plain sewing, dress making and mending. Mere fancy needle work, as embroidery and home decoration, though pleasant, useful and profitable, receive more than their due share of attention, to the frequent neglect of plain sewing and useful needle-work.

The sewing machine, one of the greatest labor saving inventions of this or any age, has worked

a great change in the family work, but it has not increased the number of deft needle-workers, nor improved the character of that class of work. Neither has it done away with the necessity for neatness and skill, which are still required in preparing and finishing the machine work. The rapidity of the machine work tends to make one lose patience with the slower hand work, and the finishing process is apt to be neglected.

In all matters of needle-work it is of the utmost importance to begin right, and though the beginnings may seem to be insignificant, they cannot be neglected, if one would become an expert. The different

KINDS OF STITCHES

should be learned thoroughly at the outset, and they are best learned as soon as the girl is old enough to handle a needle without pricking her fingers. The several stitches used are the slip, or running stitch, the English stitch, the back stitch, the stem stitch, the hem stitch, the side stitch, the herring-bone or cross stitch, the button-hole stitch, the chain stitch. Then there are the different kinds of seams, as the turned-up or French seam, the flattened seam, the double hem, or hemmed seam, the rolled hem, and the whipped scroll.

The slip, or running seam is made by constantly running the needle into the material in front of the stitch just formed, and when the quality of the material permits, several stitches may be taken on the needle at the same time before drawing the thread through.

For the English stitch the needle is inserted in an upward direction on the cross, for which reason it is much stronger than any other.

The back stitch is done in two ways. First, going from right to the left, the needle stitched into

THE WORK

behind where it had been drawn out in order to take a stitch of the same size in front. Passing from left to right, the needle is inserted in front of the stitch last formed. This method is frequently used for turned down seams.

The stem stitch is a sort of back stitch in which the stitches overlap. It is taken from left to right, and forms a neat finish for the right side of a hem.

Stitching is composed of a row of back stitches without any interval between them, the needle being at once inserted backward into the stitch just made, to be drawn out at an equal

distance in front of the stitch which has to be formed.

The hem stitch is employed to fit a hem in any stuff, the needle to be placed under the material, and drawn out about two threads above the edge.

By the help of the side stitch the folds, or rather the folded edges of two pieces of stuff that are joined, the stitch is made slantingly in the opposite side to that which is held toward the worker.

The sewing stitch is employed to join two edges of material. The needle, directed over the edges, stitches through the outer fold and comes under that which is held nearest the worker. A depth of some threads must be allowed.

THIS STITCH IS

always required to join the two selvages of calico or other cloth, and is familiarly called sewing a seam.

Herring-bone, or cross stitch, is used to join the two edges of material which, instead of being folded together, are laid one over the other and worked from left to right, making alternately a stitch below and one above. The cross stitch is

made by the thread being drawn out each time above the stitch which has just been done. This stitch is used particularly for making flannel garments.

The buttonhole stitch. A straight hole having been cut for the buttonhole, (and it is of advantage in order to strengthen the work to run two threads, one below and one above the hole), the stitches are taken from left to right in the slit of the buttonhole, to be drawn out behind the tracing at the upper end, making the thread form a species of knot. This is done either by holding it with the thumb below the needle, or in casting it upward; the

THREAD IS DRAWN

out gently toward the slit, upon the edges of which the knots ought to be formed. In making buttonholes some stitches should be placed across each end of the hole, to give it a finished appearance, and also to insure its wearing well. This stitch is also used for making eyelet holes.

In the chain stitch the needle is held straight, and always placed in the last ring or stitch, to be drawn out at an equal distance to the length of the following ring; the cotton is to be held below the needle.

Seams are formed by the various stitches already explained, and may be called simple or double. A simple seam is one that is finished at once; for instance, the hem of a handkerchief, or of any garment. Double seams and overseaming require double work. The former are sometimes made with two sorts of stitches, such as turned down seams, those turned up, flattened out, etc.

A turned down seam is used when it is desired to give extra finish to any work. Two pieces of material are joined so that one side of the seam is made either by the "English stitch" or by the running stitch. When this is done, the material is unfolded, so as to flatten out the sewing; then the longer side is turned down in a tiny fold and hemmed. These seams, which are as much flattened as possible, are made, with a few exceptions, very narrow.

A TURNED-UP, OR FRENCH SEAM

is used in fine linen and light stuffs. Two pieces of material are joined together near the edge. A running or slip stitch is used. When the seam is finished, the work is turned so as to make a similar seam at the back and close to the first. These seams are often employed for the bodies of habit shirts, sleeves, etc.

Flattened seams are employed in making the seams of garments. After the two pieces of stuff are joined, whether by a simple running or by a back stitch, they are opened and laid upon an ironing board, and a hot iron is quickly passed over them. In thin material this process greatly improves the appearance of the work. When this is done, the edges of the seams are fixed to the garment in various ways. It is best to use a cross stitch, or to run them down, taking care, however, that the stitches do not go through to the right side of the article.

A DOUBLE HEM,

or hemmed seam, is employed to join pieces of material of moderate thickness, folding them down together and at once hemming the seam, dispensing with any other stitch.

The rolled hem is made in fine linen, light stuffs, etc. The hem is prepared as required, that is to say, by rolling the edge of the material between the fingers while sewing.

The whipped scroll is prepared like the last named; the difference exists in working the needle over the edge so as to take several stitches at the same time. This whipping is generally used to make tiny frills, as the thread, if taken

loosely, can be drawn up to form a gathering. Gathering, proper, is formed by a running stitch. These stitches for running cannot be too regularly made, but are larger or smaller according to the thickness of the material. Only one needleful of thread is used to make a gathering. This is never broken off until the running is finished. This work exacts a certain amount of skill, because while making the needle run in front, the back stitches are thrown off as they amass themselves. When

THE GATHERING

is of requisite length, it is firmly fastened off at the end. This must be carefully seen to, as few things are more irritating than for the thread to run back, and all the work to come undone. The running must be graduated, it being above all necessary to equalize the gathering. This is done by taking a strong needle or pin and striking down each plait of the gathering separately so that it is all equally divided.

The foregoing may be called the rudiments of the art of needle-work; having acquired which, the artist is ready to proceed to the next stage, which is the cutting out of garments and fitting them. This requires good judgment, a steady

hand, a trained eye, and the proper conveniencies. It also involves such a mass of detail that there is not room here for any specific instructions. Special books are obtainable devoted to the art of measuring, cutting out, and fitting garments, which are so cheap as to be within the reach of all. An admirable book of the kind was recently issued by D. Appleton & Co., of New York, entitled "The Home Needle," price only sixty cents. To this work the writer is indebted for much of the information in this chapter.

Another very

IMPORTANT BRANCH OF NEEDLE-WORK,

and one which in its various branches brings into play every variety of knowledge in the art, is the mending and darning of the household, and in no other class of needle-work is more ingenuity or greater skill required.

A cheap article is seldom worth mending, and it is economy to supply its place with a new one. Linen is worth mending almost as long as it will hold together, and it is pleasant to wear, especially in hot weather. Holes that are simply "caught together," instead of having a piece properly set in, are soon gaping open again, and darning that covers only the worst of a worn

place makes the surrounding part worse than ever. Darning and patching are not to be done at hap-hazard, but according to a regular process, like every other species of needle-work.

The author of the book above referred to regards the skillful darner as a real artist, and says that "very beautiful things may be accomplished in simple darning, and when properly used, the stitch is a very effective one. Much pretty work has been done with darning on Brussels net, and it is likely to come into still more general use. So every pair of stockings well darned may be considered a step in the direction of art embroidery, and the thorough performance of an uncongenial task an apprenticeship to the rudiments of a higher and more agreeable occupation. For the best art work is only made complete by a careful attention to details, and she who can patch and darn satisfactorily has already made progress in the right direction. If the usually considered menial occupation of darning and mending can be the school and stepping stone to the more fashionable and artistic work of art embroidery, it will lose much of its repulsiveness, and young ladies may be induced to become adepts at the work. This would be a desideratum devoutly to be wished.

Scenes must be beautiful which, daily view'd,
Please daily, and whose novelty survives
Long knowledge and the scrutiny of years.—COWPER.

Nature! great parent! whose unceasing hand
Rolls round the season of the changeful year,
How mighty, how majestic are thy works!
With what a pleasing dread they swell the soul!
That sees astonish'd, and astonish'd sings!
—THOMPSON.

IT may seem out of place, at the first glance, in a book like this, for a chapter to appear on the above subject. But there is no more thorough education than intelligent observation of the wonders and beauties of Nature, and the manners and customs of people in other communities and other lands. Observation and admiration of Nature's handiwork leads

to a desire to study her methods, which is the larger part of a liberal education.

Our country probably contains within its boundaries the greatest diversity of natural wonders and beauties of any country on the globe. Men visit distant lands to study ancient civilizations, and observe the marks of progress which have been left from the cradle of the race, before the dawn of history, down to our latest development; and such things can only be studied in the old world. But when they go abroad for nature's beauties, they neglect the greater attractions which are at home.

The points to which attention is here drawn are found among the mountain peaks and yawning canyons of the far Western part of the continent, the Sierra Nevada and the Rocky Mountains. And the gem of the former is

LAKE TAHOE,

[see engraving] a body of water twenty-three miles in length by fifteen in width, the surface of which is over six thousand two hundred feet above the level of the sea, and which in its mountain setting forms a jewel of beauty probably without a parallel in the world.

The waters of the lake are tri-colored, so to speak, the result of its varying depth, but which

greatly enhances its beauty. For half a mile from the fine, sandy beach the color is a most delicate pea green, with a bluish tint, and as clear as the air. The next half mile or so its tint of green deepens perceptibly, retains the bluish tinge and the remarkable clearness. Then it changes instantly, by a well defined line, to the deepest tinge of indigo blue. The line extends from one end of the lake to the other, and in the sunlight is very marked. The water is remarkably pure, but as a bathing place it is not desirable, because of the temperature, and also because at so great an elevation the swimming is very difficult.

The depth of the water is deceptive. The shores at the northern and most of the southern end slope very gradually, and one may wade a long distance without getting beyond his depth, but then it deepens rapidly. Soundings have been made at all points, the greatest ascertained depth being 1,523 feet.

Added to the charm of the lake itself is the beauty and grandeur of

ITS SURROUNDINGS.

If the visitor will stand upon the southern shore, within hearing of the gentle murmur of the surf, while the declining sun is casting its glory

The repose
Of beauty, where she lieth bright and still,

On the most heavenward top of all this world
Wing-weary.

— *Dubell*

on the scene, he can imagine nothing more beautiful or striking. On the West the Sierra Nevadas rear their jagged peaks, capped with the never melting snows, now tinged with a delicate flush from the clouds above, and with a profile so sharp and well defined that it seems to have been carved by the chisel of an artist. To the North and East stand those watchful, unrelieved sentinels, the hills and the mountains, as if stationed there to guard the virgin beauty of the lake from unholy approach. Reaching close down to the shore, in many places, are the thick forests of fir, balsam, and pine, tall and trim as regiments of stalwart grenadiers, standing with full ranks, awaiting the orders of the presiding genius of the place.

No artist can do justice to the scene, though the most cunning have attempted it. Like the ever changing expression of the beautiful human face, its moods are various and its beauties ever new, and ever attractive. One, two, a dozen visits develop new forms of beauty, new combinations of color, and one never tires of lingering

BY ITS SHORES.

And when the winds are unlocked from their homes in the mountains and sweep across the

bosom of Tahoe, and her angry moods are on her, her aspect is grand and awesome, tempering the beholder's admiration with respect, when he sees that she is able to resent any undue familiarity.

The sentinel peaks are, in themselves, also objects of interest, which it will pay to study more carefully, but which we can here only glance at. So great is their elevation that the snow upon their summits never melts; and there they stand, with their feet in the teeming vineyards, beside the tepid waters of the Sacramento, while their peaks are capped by the unmelting frosts of a polar clime.

One other collection of great, natural curiosities, to which attention is here invited, is the great

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

in the Rocky Mountains. Within the loftiest range of those lofty mountains, almost inaccessible to the foot of man or beast, until the last few years, lying with its surface at an elevation almost one thousand feet higher than the summit of Mt. Washington, sleeps the beautiful Yellowstone Lake, in the crater of an extinct volcano. Its waters are undisturbed by a single keel, its quiet banks thickly studded with the clustering pine and the hemlock, and mirroring back from its

clear depths, in most perfect reflection, the grim and snow-capped sentinels of its repose. It is so still upon those shores it seems as if the world no longer held a thing of life. When the writer first visited the place, it was a forest primeval, untouched by the axe of the spoiler, and seeming fresh from its Creator's hand. On every side Nature was undisturbed, and so it must have been for centuries. Could the wandering Israelites have prolonged their journeyings so far, they must have beheld the same magnificent range of mountains, the same wide sweep of waters, the melancholy wind sighing through the same dark pines. This beautiful lake, a very gem in mountain setting, is the

CENTRAL BEAUTY OF THE PARK.

But the lake is by no means the only attraction. The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone will hold the visitor by its grandeur and wierd beauties. There the Yellowstone River foams and tosses its waters between volcanic walls more than a thousand feet in height. Far beneath where the visitor stands the river plunges with great velocity, but the distance is so great that not even a quiet murmur, as of a hidden brook, reaches the ear. The silence is so great that the

turbulent river below might be a ghostly stream, confined within immaterial walls.

THE WATERFALLS

will also attract the visitor, who will not fail to tarry near them until the guide fairly tears him away. The great falls are grand in their magnificence, while over the lesser falls the greenish waters are dashed in myriads of prismatic drops, the waves are capped with snowy foam, and in all the quiet eddies leaping trout rise promptly to the tempting wiles of the angler.

On every hand the evidences of volcanic action abound. The craters of extinct volcanoes, whose lurid flames in ages past lit up these solitudes with terriffic glare, and attested the tempests of fire which rage beneath the surface, are now quiet lakes and pools, fringed with ferns and mosses and beautiful flowers, the homes of the speckled trout and waterfowl.

But the spouting geysers and the hot springs are the great curiosities of the park. In the valley of the Fire Hole River, of Iron Spring Creek, and of Madison River the most interesting of these are found. From a distance, as the visitor approaches, light vapors are seen floating over the valley, indicating the locality of the springs.

The geysers and springs have formed about themselves basins, or silicious walls, varying in size and thickness from the small pool no larger than a hand basin up to the lofty mound forty feet in height, closed in at the top, under which the waters are at rest in a sarcophagus of their own construction.

At the surface of the volcanic springs, or geysers, the cold air lowers the temperature, but descending it rapidly increases up to its greatest heat. Bubbles form in the depths, rise to the surface, and burst when they reach the air. All the phenomena of boiling occur; the temperature of the entire mass reaches the boiling point, the surface swells in billowy heaps, the surrounding earth trembles, and emits a muffled roar. Suddenly the resistance of the superincumbent mass of water is overcome, and the jet leaps forth, a column of crystal, upreared into the air twenty, fifty, a hundred, two hundred feet. Other jets follow, or the first seems to be held motionless by a mysterious cohesion. In a short time the water cools, recedes within its basin, or overflows its sides, and is quiet until the struggling demon of the depths shall again force an exit, when the magnificent display is repeated.

Some of the geysers are of almost incredible

force and volume. The "Grand," for instance, in the Fire Hole Valley, is the largest and most powerful in the park. It throws into the air a compact column of water eight feet in diameter to a height of not less than two hundred feet. And the mighty power which operates to project this immense column of water to so great a height holds it there so steadily and evenly as to give it the appearance of a solid pillar of crystal.

Another geyser of the same group, known as "Old Faithful," is the most popular in the valley, from the frequency of its eruptions, which occur at intervals of about one hour. This geyser throws a column of water six feet in diameter and about one hundred and fifty feet in height.

The hot springs differ from the geysers in that they send forth no jets of water. The water is at the boiling point where it emerges, gradually cooling as it flows away. For bathing purposes there is nothing to compare with these springs, where the bather can be suited in temperature, from the boiling point to the ice cold *douche*.

There are other pleasant and picturesque resorts, more or less easy of access, but space will not permit their mention here. The writer can wish his reader no greater pleasure for the next season than a trip to the Yellowstone Park.

Life's evening, we may rest assured, will take its character from the day which has preceded it; and if we could close our career in the comfort of religious hope, we must prepare for it by early and continuous religious habit.— SHUTTLEWORTH.

Life is real, life is earnest,
And the grave is not the goal;
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul.— LONGFELLOW.

AMONG the many beautiful legends of the lost Atlantis is one told among the simple peasantry of Brittany, of the buried city of Is, lying beneath the waters of the sea near the coast. The sailors say that the spires of the buried churches may sometimes be seen in the trough of the waves, and that in times of profound calm the church

bells may be faintly heard beneath the still waters, tolling for the passing hours, and calling a shadowy congregation to their devotions.

In many a human heart which has passed the toil and turmoil of life, there lies hidden beyond recollection a city of the past, from which, in the calm evening of life, memory will send forth its chimes, calling the soul to contemplation of the past, to thoughts of joy or sorrow, as the memories of that past may be.

It is safe to assume that if man could see

THE END FROM THE BEGINNING,

his life would be governed by different rules. If in youth he could know how in age "all the uses of this world" appear "weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable," and only the genuine moral and religious virtues and graces are regarded, life would appear different to him, and would be used in a different manner.

But it seems to be natural for the young man, in the pride of his youth and strength, to act as if the present conditions would last always; as if decay could never come to him, and death must pass him by. Time is squandered as if it would last forever; strength and health are wasted as if the supply could be renewed indefinitely; oppor-

tunities are neglected as if they would always come again at his call.

But the disenchantment is certain to come sooner or later, and the evening of life will be as the day has been, either full of joy and content, or haunted by the phantoms of wasted hours, and racked by the pains resulting from health and strength early and recklessly cast away.

As we sit in the great afternoon of life, watching the lengthening shadows and the deepening twilight, the shadowy

PROCESSION OF THE PAST

goes by, traversing the halls of memory, a wierd and startling panorama. Blessed is he who is able to gaze upon it unmoved and without a blush. But to him who sees the ghosts of his youthful follies and crimes stalk by, what a sharp pang comes, in the reflection that each one left a scar on his soul which can never be effaced.

To the old age that has kept the true beacon light in view on the voyage; that has carefully studied the chart which the experience of the ages has proven to be the only correct guide; that has taken the Great Pilot on board at the proper time; to such an old age the last days are the best days, and memory brings nothing but a deeper joy.

The good man lives in the memory of the past, which has for him no regrets, and in hope of the brightening future which has for him no terrors. The wicked man is haunted by the phantoms of his wasted life, and when he looks to the shadowy future for comfort, he sees but an impassable wall or a deep abyss.

The sins of David sent him weeping and penitent to the mercy seat; those of Saul sent him angry and defiant to the cave at Endor. The mariner who refused the willing offices of

THE FAITHFUL PILOT

saw his ship go down in sight of the harbor. In his pride he rejected the offer of a guiding hand, and made shipwreck of all his hopes. But the mariner who was humble, and teachable, and true, accepted the advice of those who had gone before him, who knew the dangers of the passage and how to escape them, and placing his hand trustfully in that of the Great Pilot, who came at his call, was led in safety all the way.

If young men would endeavor more generally to cultivate a teachable spirit, learn to rely less upon themselves and more upon the wise guidance of those whose experience and exemplary lives qualify them to act as advisers, there would

be less sin and suffering in this world, and fewer lost souls in the next.

There appears to be a something in our modern philosophy of life, and which, because of its general prevalence, has crept into the religious life of the day, which may be regarded as in the nature of a disease. I refer to the

INDIFFERENCE TO SIN.

We prepare all our plans of social improvement and substantial advancement without appearing to realize the rapid advancement of the curse. Its daily manifestation in the newspapers renders it familiar. We hide it even from ourselves as long as we can, and until it breaks out in some terrible form right beside us and alarms us by its atrocity. We are trying to drill men into morality; to devise laws to repress crime; to empty our jails by philanthropic legislation, but the sin which has grown apace because of our neglect and indifference is beyond the reach of human remedies. Instead of indifference and toleration there must be aggressive and effective measures adopted. These growing evils must be trodden under foot and destroyed.

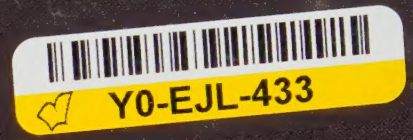
Longfellow refers to a beautiful theory of one whom sin had well nigh destroyed, until the

unfailing love of a devoted mother worked his reformation:

"Saint Augustine, well hast thou said,
That of our vices we can frame
A ladder, if we will but tread
Beneath our feet each deed of shame."

Then always strive to

"So live, that when thy summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan, which moves
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death,
Thou go not, like the quarry slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave,
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."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